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FBIS-EAS-91-155 CONTENTS *12 August 1991*

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NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Kaifu Leaves for Tour of China, Mongolia *[KYODO]* 1
    PRC Silent on UN Role *[KYODO]* 1
Lawyers Petition Government on Wives in PRC *[KYODO]* 1
Talks With DPRK To Be Held 29-30, 30-31 Aug *[KYODO]* 2
Government, ROK To Hold 'High-Level' Talks *[KYODO]* 2
Takeshita Leaves for South Korea Visit *[KYODO]* 2
Russian Prime Minister Silayev Postpones Visit *[KYODO]* 2
MITI Minister Begins Asia-Pacific Tour *[KYODO]* 2
Plans for Cambodian Representative Reported *[KYODO]* 3
U.S. President 'Likely' To Visit 29 Nov *[KYODO]* 3
Saudi Arabia Plans To Extend Oil Rights *[Tokyo TV]* 3
Algerian Minister Comments on IAEA Inspections *[KYODO]* 3
Defense Agency To Request Equipment Purchase *[KYODO]* 4
Mission To Study Scandinavian Peacekeeping Forces *[KYODO]* 4
Reportage on Securities Scandal Continues 5
    Firms To Reply To Questioning *[KYODO]* 5
    Heavier Penalties Sought *[KYODO]* 5
Bank Management Reportedly Aware of Fraud *[KYODO]* 5
Ex-Marubeni Official Indicted in Fraud Case *[KYODO]* 6
Budget Estimated at 72 Trillion Yen *[KYODO]* 6
LDP's Ozawa Discharged From Hospital *[KYODO]* 7
Toshiba Sells Isulated Gate Bipolar Transistors *[KYODO]* 7

North Korea

Perez de Cuellar Congratulates Kim Yong-nam *[KCNA]* 7
Analyst Views South's Unification Policy *[KCNA]* 7
Party Official Recognizes Existence of ROK *[KYODO]* 8
N-S Delegates Discuss 4th 'High-Level Talks' *[KCNA]* 8
South's Activities Against Rally Cited *[KCNA]* 8
Mass Rally Held for Mt. Paektu-Halla Marchers *[KCNA]* 8
South Students, March Squad Welcomed *[KCNA]* 10
Second South Korean Student Arrives in Pyongyang *[Pyongyang Radio]* 10
Daily on South's Treatment of Students in North *[KCNA]* 10
KSC Welcomes Meeting With South Newsmen *[KCNA]* 11
Defector From South Gives Interview to KCNA 11
Commentator on Nuclear Inspection of Both Koreas *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
Kim Il-song Reunification Stand Lauded *[KCNA]* 12
Reunification, Denuclearization Concert Held *[KCNA]* 13
North Postpones Sports Talks Due to Defector *[KCNA]* 13
Korean Students Committee Art Troupe Inaugurated *[KCNA]* 14
Daily on U.S Military Strategy of Domination *[KCNA]* 14
Daily on 'Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle' Month *[KCNA]* 15
Days of the DPRK Function Opens in Kirghizia *[KCNA]* 15
Kye Ung-tae Meets CPC Delegation *[KCNA]* 15
Delegation of Japan's Korean Youth League Visits *[KCNA]* 15
Japanese Director Gives Interview to KCNA 16
Cuban Envoy Hosts Month of Solidarity Reception *[KCNA]* 16
    Month of Solidarity Closes *[KCNA]* 16

Kim Il-song Sends Flowers to Castro for Birthday *[KCNA]* 17
Government Holds Reception for Castro's Birthday *[KCNA]* 17
Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Zambian Leader *[KCNA]* 18
Kim Il-song Greets Central African President *[KCNA]* 18
Kim Il-song Cables Chadian President *[KCNA]* 18
Ugandan Visitor Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il *[KCNA]* 18
WPK Delegation Returns Home From Nicaragua *[Pyongyang Radio]* 18
Kim Il-song's Role in Armed Forces Viewed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 19
Kim Il-song's Work Published in Three Languages *[KCNA]* 20
KCNA Review of 10 Aug Pyongyang Press 21
KCNA Review of 12 Aug NODONG SINMUN 22

South Korea

South Asks North for Ministers Meeting at UN *[YONHAP]* 23
Second North Working-Level Contact Held *[Seoul Radio]* 23
Government To Raise Level of High-Level Talks *[Seoul Radio]* 23
North Plans To Establish Trade Office in Japan *[TONG-A ILBO 11 Aug]* 24
Officials View Kim Chong-il Visit to PRC *[SEOUL SINMUN 10 Aug]* 24
Second Student Plans To Enter North Via China *[Seoul Radio]* 25
Student Reporters Plan To Meet North 12 Aug *[Seoul Radio]* 25
    Students Plan Banned Rally *[YONHAP]* 25
Student Reporters Barred From Meeting North *[YONHAP]* 25
Government Changes Stance on Student Contact *[YONHAP]* 26
Red Cross Urges Talks on Separated Families *[YONHAP]* 26
Police Injure Student in 'Reunification March' *[THE KOREA HERALD 10 Aug]* 26
Assemblymen To Meet Diet Members, Discuss North *[YONHAP]* 26
Firms Seek To Dredge River for N. Economic Zone *[YONHAP]* 27
Seoul Allows Church To Contact North Pastor *[YONHAP]* 27
Kim Tae-chung To Attend No Tae-u's UN Address *[THE KOREA TIMES 11 Aug]* 27
Seoul To Participate in UN Committee Meeting *[YONHAP]* 27
Denuclearization Discussion With North Possible *[SEOUL SINMUN 9 Aug]* 28
Moscow To Discuss Cooperation at UN in Sep *[YONHAP]* 28
Soviet Government Sends Loan Payment Guarantee *[THE KOREA HERALD 10 Aug]* 28
USSR To Hold Talks on Opening Consulates *[YONHAP]* 29
Seoul, China To Hold Trade Talks Late Aug *[KYONGHYANG SINMUN 10 Aug]* 29
Tokyo, Seoul Lawmakers Agree on DPRK Approach *[KYODO]* 29
Japan-North Ties To Be Discussed in Tokyo *[YONHAP]* 29
Japanese Parliamentarians Pledge Cooperation *[YONHAP]* 30
Japan's Takeshita, Diet Group Arrive *[KYODO]* 30
No Meets With Libyan Water Project Official *[YONHAP]* 30
Government To Participate in GATT Revision *[THE KOREA TIMES 11 Aug]* 31
No Tae-u Urges Democratic Liberal Party Unity *[THE KOREA TIMES 11 Aug]* 31
Government Announces Planned 1992 Budget *[YONHAP]* 32
Service Industry Accounts for Highest Output *[YONHAP]* 32
Civil Servants Under Investigation on Corruption *[YONHAP]* 32
First-Half Foreign Currency Loan Statistics *[YONHAP]* 32
Ministry Eases Restrictions at Military Airports *[YONHAP]* 33

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Cambodia

CANBERRA TIMES Interviews Hor Namhong *[SPK]* 34
Changes in Party Central Committee Announced *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 35
National Assembly Session To Begin 'Very Soon' *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 35
Commentary Argues Against Dissolution of Troops *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
U.S. Congressional Delegation Visits 7-8 Aug *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
Leaders Send Greetings on Indian National Day *[SPK]* 37
Japanese UNESCO Delegation Visits *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 37

International Organizations Give Aid *[SPK]* 37
Khieu Samphan Message to UN Secretary General *[Radio VODK]* 37
Ranariddh Plans Tour To Establish Contacts *[Bangkok THE NATION 11 Aug]* 38

Laos

Assembly Meeting on Constitution Postponed *[Bangkok TV]* 39
National Assembly To Convene 13-15 Aug *[KPL]* 39
Ministry on Readiness To Consider ASEAN Aid *[AFP]* 39
Official Pleased on Progress of Cambodian Peace *[AFP]* 40

Philippines

Rumors of Honasan's New Coup Plan Reported 40
    Checkpoints Reinstated *[Manila Radio]* 40
    Policeman Denies Report *[Manila Radio]* 41
    Plan Called 'Propaganda Ploy' *[Manila Radio]* 41
Secretary Drilon on Return of Marcos Remains *[Manila Radio]* 41
Officials, Others Discuss U.S. Bases Issue 41
    Congressional Panel Meets *[Quezon City TV]* 41
    Further on Opposition *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 12 Aug]* 44
    Sides Disagree Over Terminology *[Manila Radio]* 46
    8 Senators Oppose Ratification *[Quezon City Radio]* 46
    Aquino Lobbies for Ratification *[Manila Radio]* 46
    Senators Vow Swift Action *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Aug]* 46
    Salonga Offers Subic Alternative *[Manila Radio]* 47
    Salonga Admits U.S. Visitation *[Manila Radio]* 47
    House Leaders Urge Plebiscite *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Aug]* 47
    Manglapus Remarks on 'Vacuum' *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Aug]* 48
    More on Manglapus Remarks *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Aug]* 49
    Manglapus on Government Measures *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Aug]* 49
    Survey: Cebu Supports Ratification *[MANILA BULLETIN 12 Aug]* 50
Official Says U.S. Favors Ramos as President *[Manila Radio]* 50
Taiwan Withdraws Technical, Financial Assistance *[Quezon City Radio]* 50
    Sea Lane Agreement Clarified *[MANILA BULLETIN 11 Aug]* 51
Central Bank Notes Balance-of-Payments Surplus *[BUSINESS WORLD 12 Aug]* 51
Grenades Kill 2 Foreign Missionaries, Injure 35 *[MALAYA 12 Aug]* 52

Thailand

Foreign Minister Remarks on Burmese Relations *[THE NATION 10 Aug]* 53
Agriculture Minister Cancels Trip to Burma *[THE NATION 12 Aug]* 54
Official Remarks on Burma's Stance on Fishing *[Bangkok Radio]* 54
Commerce Ministry To Send 3 Missions to U.S. *[BANGKOK POST 12 Aug]* 55
Iraq Agrees to Thai Rice Export Proposal *[BANGKOK POST 12 Aug]* 55
Two Vietnamese Boats Seized in Thai Waters *[BANGKOK POST 12 Aug]* 56
Envoy to SRV Reveals 846 Fishermen in Jail *[BANGKOK POST 12 Aug]* 56
Minister Plans Southern Trip To Reassure Muslims *[THE NATION 12 Aug]* 56
Sunthon To Retain NPKC Chairmanship *[BANGKOK POST 10 Aug]* 57
Former Ministers Declared 'Unusually Rich' *[BANGKOK POST 11 Aug]* 57
Article Views Draft for Agricultural Council *[THE NATION 11 Aug]* 58
Ministry To Change Village Chief Election System *[THE NATION 12 Aug]* 59
Suchinda Delivers Speech for Queen's Birthday *[Bangkok Radio]* 60

Vietnam

Further on New Council of Ministers Chairman 61
    Vote Tally Given *[VNA]* 61
    Acceptance Speech Given *[VNA]* 61
    News Conference Held 10 Aug *[Hanoi Radio]* 61
    More on News Conference *[Hanoi International]* 63
    Interview With Vo Van Kiet *[Hanoi Radio]* 63

National Assembly Session Proceedings Continue 64
  Fight Against Corruption Detailed *[Hanoi Radio]* 64
  9 Aug Meeting Held *[Hanoi Radio]* 64
  Communique No. 7 Issued *[Hanoi Radio]* 66
  New Cabinet Members Elected *[Hanoi Radio]* 66
  New Foreign Minister Hightlighted *[AFP]* 67
  More on 10 Aug Session *[Hanoi Radio]* 67
  Communique No. 8 Issued *[Hanoi Radio]* 69
  12 Aug Session Reported *[Hanoi Radio]* 70
  Meetings With Deputies Recounted *[Hanoi Radio]* 70
Press Communique of PRC Talks Issued *[Hanoi TV]* 71
Commentary Views Relations With PRC *[Hanoi International]* 72
Do Muoi Receives U.S. Congressional Delegation *[VNA]* 72
USSR-U.S. Summit Meeting in Moscow Reveiwed *[Hanoi Radio]* 72
  Further Commentary on Summit *[Hanoi Radio]* 73
Council of Ministers Issues Ordinance on Research *[VNA]* 74
Court Passes Death Sentence on 'Bad Element' *[Hanoi Radio]* 74
Foreign Minister Addresses Junior Diplomatic Club *[VNA]* 74
Cultural Delegation Visits Japanese Festival *[VNA]* 74
Envoy, Indian Official Exchange Views *[VNA]* 75
Countrywide Rice Planting Reviewed *[Hanoi Radio]* 75
Rare Earth Deposits Found in Northwest *[VNA]* 75

AUSTRALASIA

Fiji

Government Appoints Chief to Cabinet in Reshuffle *[AFP]* 76

New Zealand

Antinuclear Stand Should Not Direct Policy *[AFP]* 76

Papua New Guinea

Foreign Minister Confident of UNGA Presidency *[Melbourne Intenational]* 76

Japan

Kaifu Leaves for Tour of China, Mongolia

OW1008014291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left Tokyo on Saturday morning to visit China, the first leader of a major industrialized country to do so since the 1989 military crackdown on pro-democracy movements.

After a four-day official visit to Beijing, Kaifu, accompanied by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, will visit the Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaator Tuesday before returning home Wednesday.

After arriving in Beijing, Kaifu will meet Chinese Premier Li Peng, fully restoring relations between the two nations, which have been at a low ebb since June 4, 1989, when the military crushed a pro-democracy rally in Tiananmen Square, government ofccials said.

In the meeting with Li, Kaifu will pledge to provide 130 billion yen to China as the fiscal 1991 portion of an 810 billion yen loan package and 1.5 million dollars in additional emergency aid for victims of China's worst floods this century.

The talks between the two leaders will center on global arms control and disarmament, and the two nations' contributions to the international community, the officials said.

Kaifu is expected to urge Li to sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and to support a Japanese proposal for a U.N. registry of conventional arms transactions.

The Japanese prime minister will also repeat Japan's regrets for its past military invasion of China, the officials said.

On Monday Kaifu will confer with Chinese Communist Party Chief Jiang Zemin and President Yang Shangkung, who is expected to invite Emperor Akihiko and Empress Michiko to China.

In Ulaanbaator, Kaifu will meet Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat and Prime Minister Dashiyn Byambasuren.

In the talks with Mongolian leaders, Kaifu will support political and economic reforms in the country and offer 2.03 billion yen in grants-in-aid.

PRC Silent on UN Role

OW1208113091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1058 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 KYODO—China's silence over Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's explanations in Beijing of Japan's plan to join U.N. peacekeeping efforts is not necessarily a negative sign, a top Foreign Ministry source said Monday.

The source was referring to the silences which followed Kaifu's informing of Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng that Japan intends to Send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations [PKO].

"The fact they declined comment does not of course mean they were enthusiastically in favor, but nor does it mean they consider it a great problem," the source said. "It's not so simple as just saying yes or no."

The source said "a certain amount of caution ... is only natural" on the part of Chinese leaders, considering the memories the Chinese people still harbor of "the unfortunate past history" between Japan and China.

Japanese officials use the term "the unfortunate past history" in referring to Japan's invasion of China and establishment of a colony in northeast China during and before World War II.

"This caution is not necessarily a negative sign and we don't consider it surprising," he said.

The mute reaction, he said, also reflects the fact that Japan's proposed U.N. participation is a new issue for China. "It seems China has not reached a stage where it is ready to make a formal reaction," he said.

Suggesting another possible reason for the noncommittal Chinese response, the source also indicated China is going to pains to ensure the success of Kaifu's visit, the first by a leader of a major industrialized country since the June 1989 military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators at Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

Lawyers Petition Government on Wives in PRC

OW0908223191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 KYODO—The Japan Federation of Bar Associations petitioned the government Friday to find a way to facilitate the return of Japanese wives left behind in China during the confused closing days of World War II.

The federation delivered the formal request to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who leaves Saturday for China and Mongolia. Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto promised the government would look into the petition.

A Health and Welfare Ministry official said the government is already providing the money for roundtrip travel and a two-week visit for wives that want to visit Japan.

For those who want to remain in Japan, the government will treat them as it does Japanese orphans left in China after the war who come to Japan looking for their long lost relatives, the official said.

If they cannot find any blood relatives, wives wishing to remain would be accepted with a special status through a volunteer agency, the official said.

Some 2,000 Japanese women are believed to have been left behind in China in the hectic final days of the war.

Talks With DPRK To Be Held 29-30, 30-31 Aug

OW1008093891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0902 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Japan and North Korea will hold their fourth round of normalization talks August 29-30 or August 30- 31 in Beijing, government sources said Saturday. The two countries announced on July 20 that they would resume the stalemated talks in Beijing in late August.

South Korea has urged Japan to schedule the Tokyo-Pyongyang talks so they do not coincide with the inter-Korean prime ministerial talks scheduled August 27-30, the sources said. But South Korea is not likely to oppose setting the Japan-North Korea talks for either August 29-30 or August 30-31 because the prime ministerial talks will have passed their climax by then, the sources said.

Because both Pyongyang and Seoul were virtually guaranteed admission to the United Nations in September when the Security Council approved their applications Thursday, the upcoming Japanese-North Korean talks should be positive and constructive, a top Foreign Ministry official said.

The last round of talks broke down in May, with Pyongyang demanding that Japan drop its request for information on a Japanese woman who Japanese police suspect was kidnapped to train a North Korean agent convicted in the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner over the Andaman Sea.

In late May, Pyongyang dropped its long-standing opposition to Seoul's proposal that North and South Korea take separate seats in the U.N., removing one issue between Japan and North Korea at their normalization talks.

Tokyo and Seoul established diplomatic relations in 1965.

Government, ROK To Hold 'High-Level' Talks

OW1008141391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1328 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—South Korea and Japan will hold high-level consultations in Tokyo from August 26 to 29 to discuss the situation on the Korean peninsula in the wake of simultaneous entry into the United Nations by both South and North Korea, YONHAP News Agency reported Saturday.

The news agency report, monitored in Tokyo by SHIN-A NEWS, said officials in Seoul will tell Tokyo it will not oppose diplomatic normalization talks between Japan and North Korea if it would contribute to peace and reunification of the divided Korean peninsula.

South Korea will also seek cooperation from Japan to press Pyongyang to accept international inspection of its secret nuclear facilities, the agency said.

Seoul wants to have a frank exchange of views with Tokyo on policy coordination to seek North Korea to open its doors to the outside world, the agency said.

South Korea will brief Japan on details of high-level talks held with the United States in Hawaii this week, it said.

Takeshita Leaves for South Korea Visit

OW1108040291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0349 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and a delegation from the Japanese Diet members' league for friendship with South Korea left here Sunday for talks with South Korean parliamentarians.

The delegation of the Japanese league headed by Takeshita will hold a joint meeting in Seoul on Monday and Tuesday with legislators from the league's South Korean counterpart.

The Japanese delegation will return home Tuesday.

Russian Prime Minister Silayev Postpones Visit

OW0908160291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1456 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 9 KYODO—Russian Republic Premier Ivan Silayev will postpone his visit to Japan, scheduled for August 17- 24, the republic's government informed the Japanese Embassy here Friday.

Embassy officials said the Russian Government attributed the postponement to Silayev's planned attendance at a ceremony to sign a new federation treaty on August 20.

The premier's visit to Japan will have to be rescheduled after August 20, the officials said.

MITI Minister Begins Asia-Pacific Tour

OW1108132991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1241 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—International Trade and Industry [MITI] Minister Eiichi Nakao left for Sydney on Sunday on an eight-day, three-nation tour which also will take him to Singapore and Thailand.

In talks with leaders in the three countries, Nakao will discuss economic cooperation and trade among Asia-Pacific countries, officials said.

He will return home August 18.

Plans for Cambodian Representative Reported

OW0908155491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1226 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 (KYODO)—Japan's Foreign Ministry has informed the head of Cambodia's interim Supreme National Council (SNC), Prince Norodom Sihanouk, that it will dispatch an ambassador- level representative to Phnom Penh once SNC headquarters have been established there, ministry sources said Friday.

The message, sent from the Japanese Embassy in Beijing through Sihanouk's office there, informed the SNC chairman that Japan will dispatch the representative in November when the SNC offices are scheduled to be set up.

Tokyo will recognize the SNC as the Cambodian government at that time, the officials said.

Prior to the dispatch of the representative in November, the ministry will send a pair of diplomats to Phnom Penh in September to set up an "SNC liaison office," in anticipation of setting up a new mission there.

Sihanouk is also expected to visit Japan in September on his way to attend the United Nations General Assembly from Pyongyang where he is currently staying.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama indicated on July 25 that Tokyo planned an embassy in Phnom Penh and the message has been formally transmitted to Sihanouk since then.

U.S. President 'Likely' To Visit 29 Nov

OW1008103291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0918 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—U.S. President George Bush is likely to arrive in Japan on November 29 for a four-day visit, government sources said Saturday.

After meeting Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Emperor Akihito, Bush will go to Osaka, the sources said. The U.S. President will go on to South Korea on December 2, they said.

The Japanese Government would like Bush to spend four days in Japan, but he may be able to stay just three days, which would make it difficult for him to visit Osaka, the sources said.

Bush will probably be invited to speak to the Diet, the sources said.

The White House announced in July that Bush will visit Japan, South Korea, and Australia in late November.

Bush had tentatively planned a trip to Tokyo earlier this year but postponed it because of the Persian Gulf war.

There has been speculation that Bush will visit Pearl Harbor after visiting the three countries to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack.

Saudi Arabia Plans To Extend Oil Rights

OW1108061191 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] It has been made clear that the Saudi Government plans to authorize oil extracting rights to a Japanese oil company even after the year 2000, when the contract expires. The Japanese oil firm in question is the Arabia Oil Company, which is producing crude oil in the Middle East. This was disclosed by the Saudi Government and Japanese oil interests today.

Under contracts concluded with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait respectively, Arabia Oil, the largest Japanese oil-producing company, is producing a daily average of approximately 250,000 barrels of crude oil in the Khafji and Futto [name as heard] oil fields, using Khafji in the northeastern part of Saudi Arabia as its base.

The contract with Saudi Arabia is to expire in March of the year 2000, three years earlier than that with Kuwait. The Saudi Government, however, plans to renew the contract with Arabia Oil to authorize its oil extracting rights beyond 2000.

If and when Saudi Arabia authorizes the extension of Arabia Oil's mining concession, it is believed certain that Kuwait will follow suit.

The Khafji and other oil fields in the two Middle East countries have been confirmed to have enough deposits for oil extraction for the next 40 to 50 years. Japanese oil industrial circles welcome the news because the renewal of the contracts will lead to a stable, long-term supply of oil to Japan.

Algerian Minister Comments on IAEA Inspections

OW0908155991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Aug. 9 (KYODO)—Algerian Economic Minister Hocine Benissad said here Friday that Algeria has offered to allow international nuclear safeguard inspections of its controversial Chinese-supplied research reactor.

Benissad made the remarks in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE at the close of his six-day visit to Japan as leader of a high- powered Algerian delegation, which included Energy Minister Nordine Ait-Laoussine.

"We asked the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to send a mission ... to inspect when they want," Benissad said, adding he is unaware if the U.N.-affiliated agency has responded to the invitation.

"The Americans were very glad to hear that," he said, apparently alluding to Pentagon concerns the yet-to-be-completed reactor may point to a nuclear weapons program.

Benissad dismissed such allegations, saying the reactor is "absolutely" intended for nothing other than peaceful purposes.

"I think some media exaggerates Algeria's aim, especially in the military field," the minister said. "You cannot compare the Iraqi regime to Algeria."

Informed sources said Algeria has already begun talks with the IAEA on the possible inspections of the reactor, though they would would probably have to await its completion.

Algeria's official APS NEWS AGENCY said in an April dispatch the reactor would be completed in two year's time.

Algerian officials insist the reactor would only be used to train scientists, engineers, and technicians.

The reactor, located 270 kilometers south of Algiers at the foot of the Atlas Mountains, has reportedly been named "Assalam" (peace) reactor to counter allegations it was designed with a capability to recycle weapons-grade plutonium for possible use in the manufacture of nuclear devices. [passage omitted]

Neither Algeria nor China are signatories to the 142-nation Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), which bans trade in nuclear arms and technologies.

China has said in relation to the export of the reactor to Algeria its "nuclear exports are strictly guided by its policy of nuclear nonproliferation."

Algerian Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche was quoted by the Paris daily LE MONDE in May as saying Algeria only turned to China for the reactor after approaching France and Germany in vain.

He reportedly said France was uncooperative, while the Germans' terms were too steep.

Defense Agency To Request Equipment Purchase

OW1108080491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—The Defense Agency will request the purchase of one training ship, three units of surface-to-air Patriot missile system, and 28 Type-90 tanks in the fiscal 1992 budget to improve frontline equipment in the Self-Defense Forces (SDF), Agency officials said Sunday.

The purchase of those weapons was canceled because the initial allocation of defense outlays in the fiscal 1991 budget starting in April was reduced by 100 billion yen as part of budgetary measures to raise the 9 billion dollars in aid to the multinational forces that defeated Iraq in the Persian Gulf war.

In accordance with the government spending guidelines for the fiscal 1992 budget which begins next April, the Defense Agency will request about 4,622 billion yen, an increase of 5.38 percent from the fiscal 1991 budget.

Each government ministry and agency will submit their fiscal 1992 budgetary requests to the Finance Ministry by the end of August.

Following the ministry's strict review of the requests, the government will draft the fiscal 1992 budget by the end of the year.

To enhance the capability of forward weapons systems of the SDF, the agency will request the purchase of eight surface-to-ship SSM missiles, 28 Type-90 tanks for the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF), two destroyers, one training ship, two antisubmarine aircraft P-3Cs, and one submarine for the Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF).

For the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF), the agency will call for the purchase of 11 F-15 fighter-interceptors and three units of Patriot antimissile missile systems.

Meanwhile, the management and coordinating agency will issue a recommendation Monday urging the Defense Agency to rationalize and efficiently implement ways to procure logistic support equipment, government officials said.

In the recommendation, the management agency will call on the Defense Agency to set up an on-line system connecting each unit of the SDF for more efficient management of inventories.

Mission To Study Scandinavian Peacekeeping Forces

OW1108074491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0645 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Japan's largest labor organization, Rengo, will send a mission to Scandinavia next month to find ways Japan can contribute to U.N. peacekeeping operations, Rengo officials said Sunday.

Rengo, formally called the Japanese Trade Union Confederation, will send seven or eight members of its Secretariat and member unions to Sweden, Norway, and Finland in late September to inspect their peacekeeping operations.

Rengo will also begin debates to form a consensus on a Japanese corps to be created for U.N. peacekeeping operations, they said.

A Rengo leader said the organization wants to check moves by the government and ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] to control the building of the framework for Japan's peacepeeking corps.

The mission will meet officials of the three Scandinavian countries to learn about their peacekeeping corps, their legal backgrounds, and labor's positions on the corps, the Rengo officials said.

The government plans to submit a bill on peacekeeping activities to the current extraordinary Diet session, based on an agreement reached last November among the LDP and centrist opposition Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party.

The government earlier this month unveiled the draft bill to create a corps to cooperate in U.N. peacekeeping operations, including participation in U.N. forces to separate opposing troops, monitor ceasefires, supervise elections, and assist in medical care.

Reportage on Securities Scandal Continues

Firms To Reply To Questioning

OW1008020391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0145 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] New York, Aug. 9 KYODO—Japan's "big four" securities houses Friday made it clear they will respond to a request by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commision [SEC] for documents on the recent stock scandal by next Monday, the deadline for their response.

The brokerages, however, will not submit all the documents the sec requested, which concern compensation paid to favored clients for stock market losses, sources close to the securities houses said.

The brokerages—Nomura Securities Co., Daiwa Securities Co., Nikko Securities Co., and Yamaichi Securities Co.—say they cannot send documents on compensation paid after April 1990, which have not been released in Japan, as well as information that would "inconvenience" their customers, the sources said.

The four companies' lawyers are talking with the SEC about submitting the documents and the SEC may ask for additional data if the documents were not sufficient for its investigation, the sources said.

Heavier Penalties Sought

OW0908182891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 9 (KYODO)—The Finance Ministry is seeking heavier penalties against brokerages and clients involved in market loss compensation, a high-ranking ministry official said Friday.

Vice Finance Minister Hiroshi Yasuda told reporters that securities industry regulators believe that penalties against corporations violating the Securities and Exchange Law are too light.

Ministry officials have said they are seeking to amend the law to ban brokers from paying and clients from accepting compensation for investment losses.

Sources said earlier the ministry wanted to revise the Securities and Exchange Law so that offenders could face a prison term of up to three years or penalties of up to 3 million.

Promising to cover clients' losses is against the present law, but compensating them later without a promise is not, although it violates a nonbinding December 1989 Finance Ministry directive.

Yasuda indicated that proposals for revising the law would be presented to the extraordinary session of the Diet, which ends October 4, saying that he would like to see heavier penalties go into effect in the initial stage.

Ministry officials have said they will seek a sweeping revision of the law in two stages, so bills will be submitted to the ordinary session of the Diet to be convened in late December, as well as to the ongoing extraordinary session.

Bank Management Reportedly Aware of Fraud

OW1008163891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1406 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Senior management of the Fuji Bank was aware of a middle-level executive's forgery of deposit certificates used as collateral in a massive fraud loan scheme as early as February 1989, a bank official said Saturday.

The loan fraud case involves forgeries of 51 deposit certificates worth 260 billion yen by Minoru Nakamura, a middle-level executive at the bank's Akasaka branch, and two other executives, who forged certificates for 23 of the bank's corporate clients to use as collateral for loans of the same amount from nonbank financial institutions between 1987 and 1991.

The bank official told KYODO NEWS SERVICE on condition of anonymity that even after top management at the bank's Akasaka branch discovered deposit certificates forged by Nakamura and the other two, they did not report it to the bank's headquarters.

"The superiors told our bank's in-house investigators they did not report the uncovered fact of falsifications of these certificates to our headquarters, as they became concerned about tarnishing the middle manager's career," the official said.

Nakamura, 38, is now facing police questioning on allegations that he and the other two Fuji Bank executives conspired to forge deposit certificates worth 260 billion yen.

Fuji Bank said earlier that only Nakamura and the other two middle managers should be held responsible for arranging the massive loans, using the forged deposit certificates as collateral.

The official also said, "If Nakamura's superiors had reported to the bank headquarters (about the forgery) accurately, we could have blocked the further expansion of the size of the illegal financing to such huge amounts."

Nakamura earlier told the press his superiors at the Akasaka branch were aware of his forgery of deposit certificates and that they were used as collateral to help corporate clients to obtain huge loans from nonbank financial institutions.

The huge loans were reportedly used to finance the clients' speculative land purchases and other business deals.

Police are apparently investigating the extent of the implication of nakamura's superiors in the loan fraud scandal.

The anonymous official said that when the forgery came to the branch superior's knowledge in February 1989 after a nonbank financial institution made an inquiry to the branch, Nakamura defended the deal before his superior, who questioned him about the deal.

At that time, Nakamura told his superior he had to forge the deposit certificate to balance the bank records temporarily, saying the client had withdrawn the deposit and had replaced it with land as collateral, according to the official.

The bank's internal probe has revealed that the superior had then scolded Nakamura for about 20 minutes and urged him to correct the bank records, but the senior executive failed to report the case to the bank's headquarters, he said.

An official of a nonbank financial institution quoted Nakamura as saying, "The head of the Akasaka branch and other three superiors of mine were aware of not only the forgery, but the fact of illegal finance deals. I expanded the amount of the illegal finance deals, as I felt I had to bolster my business performance for the branch.

"After the forgery of deposit certificates was uncovered by the press, one of my superiors telephoned me late at night, telling me, 'You are the man who balances the bank's records, even if you engaged in wrongdoing.' I thought he was going to hush up the case again," Nakamura was further quoted as telling the nonbank official.

Ex-Marubeni Official Indicted in Fraud Case

OW1008063691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0621 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Prosecutors indicted another former Marubeni Corp. official Saturday in connection with a bogus steel project deal.

The Tokyo district public prosecutor's office indicted Tadashi Tsutsumibayashi, 56, former chief of the major trading company's steel project department, on a charge of conspiring with three other men involved the case.

Tsutsumibayashi was charged with defrauding Iida Sangyo Co. of Fukuoka and Okato Shoji Co. of Tokyo of 3.65 billion yen by fabricating contract documents for fictitious orders in 1990, in collusion with the other three, according to the indictment.

The others are Kazuyoshi Kubota, 49, former acting chief of Marubeni's steel project department, Goro Moriguchi, 48, former vice president of Kyowa Co., a Tokyo-based steel frame maker, and another Kyowa senior executive.

The three, who were indicted earlier on the same charges, were also indicted Saturday on separate charges of swindling 3.25 billion yen from trading company Nissho-Iwai Corp. and Iwasaki Kikai Co., a Tokyo-based machine maker, between 1988 and 1990 using a similiar method.

According to prosecutors, they asked Iida Sangyo and Okato Shoji to act an intermediaries for the bogus steel frame deals, which they falsely told the two firms were concluded between Marubeni and certain construction companies.

They succeeded in making the two firms believe the deals were genuine by showing fabricated contract documents on several different occasions in 1990, using Marubeni's own contract forms carrying Marubeni logos and official corporate seals, prosecutors said.

At their request, Iida Sangyo placed orders for steel materials with Kyowa while paying money for the materials ostensibly provided by Kyowa.

Prosecutors plan to also indict Tsutsumibayashi on charges of involvement in the Nissho-Iwai case.

Budget Estimated at 72 Trillion Yen

OW1208125191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1222 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 (KYODO)—Japanese Government ministries and agencies will file budget requests for fiscal 1992 totaling an estimated 75 trillion yen at least, a nearly 8 percent growth from the year before, Finance Ministry sources said Monday.

But the ministry, faced with massive government debts and the prospect of slower tax revenue growth in a sluggish economy, is likely to be skimpy, shaving the general-account expenditures to 74 trillion yen for the year to March 31, 1993.

As decided by the ministry in early July, general operating expenditures, intended to finance government operations, will increase up to 5.2 percent, or to 38,956.5 billion yen.

Grants to local governments are likely to exceed 18.4 trillion yen, but the ministry will try to cut down on such spending to make ends meet. Allocations for local governments have been a sacred cow in the government's budget making, little affected by the economic ups and downs and other changes on the economic front.

Government debt payments are estimated at over 17 trillion yen. The balance of such government debts will total 168 trillion yen at the end of the current fiscal year.

With another 1.3 trillion yen added for public works projects funded by sales of government-held shares of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT), the budget requests are expected to total over 75 trillion yen, the sources said.

Such requests will be presented by the end of August, forming the basis for the ministry to compile a draft budget by December.

After further negotiations over the ministry's version, a final budget proposal will be submitted to the cabinet in late December, after which the budget will be introduced to the Diet early next year.

LDP's Ozawa Discharged From Hospital

OW1008022491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0155 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Ichiro Ozawa, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), left the hopital Saturday morning, 42 days after he was admitted for chest pains.

Ozawa's staff said he is likely to resume work gradually after the annual bon holiday season.

Ozawa was rushed to a Tokyo hospital by ambulance after complaining of heart pains at his home June 29.

On July 6 doctors at Nippon Medical College Hospital said Ozawa had no more symptoms of coronary artery disease and can lead a normal life.

Ozawa, however, stayed in the hospital to recuperate at his family's request.

He concentrated on recovering his health while in the hospital, declining to meet most politicans. During his hospitalization, he met only two party leaders, former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru.

He stepped down from the top party post April 8 after LDP candidate Hisanori Isomura lost to incumbent Shunichi Suzuki in the Tokyo gubernatorial election.

Toshiba Sells Isulated Gate Bipolar Transistors

OW1208085591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0812 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 (KYODO)—Toshiba Corp. said Monday it has begun marketing 15 new models of insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTS) modules for use in inverters, precision machinery, and uninterruptible power supplies.

Sample shipments of the new devices will start this September and the price will range from 5,000 yen to 30,000 yen, officials said.

The company will begin mass producing 10,000 modules a month in January 1992, officials said.

An IGBT is a new type of semiconductor-based switching device which can control the flow of electricity.

North Korea

Perez de Cuellar Congratulates Kim Yong-nam

SK1008130391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—A session of the United Nations Security Council on August 8 deliberated on a report worked out and submitted by the committee on admission of new members and adopted with unaminous approval a resolution recommending to the U.N. General Assembly the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member of the U.N.

A congratulatory letter came to Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister of the DPRK, from U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in this connection.

Analyst Views South's Unification Policy

SK1108104391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0842 GMT 11 Aug 91

["NODONG SINMUN Slams South Korean Authorities' 'Unification by Absorption' Scheme"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities insist on "unification by absorption" under their sponsorship, doggedly opposing reunification through a confederacy which can bring the earliest and most smooth reunification of the country.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands this as a deliberate move to delay reunification and perpetuate division.

The news analyst says:

This intention of the South Korean authorities was revealed when the puppet minister of information blabbed a few days ago that the "trust" of the South Korean people in "democracy" will be an "impetus" in leading the North to "opening and reform" and making South Korea play the "leading role" in the reunification movement.

It is ridiculous of the puppets to cry for "opening and reform" of the North and "reunification orchestrated by South Korea", propagandizing fictitious "democracy" in South Korea.

This openly disclosed their criminal intention to lull the people's spirit of resistance by putting the veil of "democracy" over the anti-popular, anti-national colonial military fascist rule of South Korea, degenerate the social system in the northern half of the country and realize "unification by absorption".

The society of dictatorship, the closed society that requires opening and reform is South Korea itself. The South Korean ruling group keeps closed the door which should be opened, binding people demanding freedom and democracy hand and foot.

By "opening and reform" they mean to open the road for "unification by absorption" by sending the wind of "liberalization" into the northern half of the country.

It is a foolish dream which can never be realized that any one party should destroy the system of the other side and realize "unification" under its sponsorship. And, if a party attempt to carry on this method forcibly, it will only aggravate North-South confrontation.

By their practical act, the puppets make it plain that "national concord" and "unification" on their lips are a lie.

Party Official Recognizes Existence of ROK

OW1008111[illegible]91 Tokyo KYODO in English 1042 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 10 KYODO—A senior North Korean party official has recognized South Korea as a nation for the first time, a Japanese lawmaker said Saturday.

Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the ruling Korea Workers Party [WPK] in charge of international affairs, was quoted as saying his country applied in July for membership in the United Nations because it faced up to the reality that two countries exist on the Korean peninsula.

He made the remark in a meeting with Hisato Iwamoto, an opposition Social Democratic Party member of the House of Councillors, the lawmaker said.

Kim told Iwamoto on Friday in Pyongyang that North Korea decided to apply for U.N. membership together with South Korea after facing up to reality in the people's interest.

In a major policy shift in late May, Pyongyang dropped its previous stand that North and South Korea should share a single seat in the world body and said it would apply to join the U.N. simultaneously with South Korea.

The U.N. Security Council on Thursday unanimously adopted a resolution recommending that the General Assembly simultaneously approve membership for North and South Korea.

The General Assembly is expected to unanimously approve the resolution when it convenes on September 17.

The Japanese lawmaker spoke to reporters in Beijing on his way home from North Korea, where he went to make arrangements for Korean-Americans living in Japan to meet relatives in North Korea.

N-S Delegates Discuss 4th 'High-Level Talks'

SK1008105691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 10 (KCNA)—The second contact between working-level delegates of the two sides for the fourth North-South high-level talks was held at 10:00 today at the Tongil house in our side's portion of Panmunjom.

At the contact the sides discussed working matters for the fourth North-South high-level talks.

It was decided to have the next contact between working-level delegates at 10:00 on August 16 in the South side's portion of Panmunjom.

South's Activities Against Rally Cited

SK1008044991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Rev. Kang Hui-nam, acting chairman of the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), Sin Chang-kyon, chairman of the South side's headquarters for the promotion of the 91 Seoul pan-national rally, and five other members of the preparatory committee were ordered to report to the police Thursday by the puppet Seoul local police agency of South Korea, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Branding their activities to hold the pan-national rally in Seoul as a violation of the "National Security Law," the South Korean ruling group threatened that it would forcibly walk them away in case they failed to appear before the police.

Meanwhile, the South Korean ruling group Thursday arrested on charge of violating the fascist law student Kang Chong-o of Korea University in Seoul and student Yu Chun-hyon, chairman of the General Student Council of Seoul Municipal University, who were active in the work for the grand festival of students for reunification.

Mass Rally Held for Mt. Paektu-Halla Marchers

SK1008155191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—A grand Pyongyang mass rally was held at the Kim Il-song stadium this afternoon with the attendance of 100,000 school children, students and working people to welcome the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand squad for the promotion of national reunification.

Hung out at the stadium were posters and sloganboards reading "Let us promote national reunification through successful 91 pan-national rally!" "Let us realise the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, South and overseas!" "Full support to the struggle of Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] and students of South Korea for independence, democracy and reunification!" "Let us make the 1990s a decade of reunification!" And "Korea is one!"

When the squad entered the stadium with the flag of the North side's delegation to the August 15 pan-national rally, the flag of the grand reunification festival of students, the flag of the march squad, placards and slogans reflecting the desire for reunification, the crowds warmly welcomed it, shouting "welcome," "national reunification" and "Korea is one" and waving flowers and colorful buntings.

Students and working people presented flowers to the delegate of Chondaehyop and delegates of overseas Koreans.

The rally was attended by Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North side's headquarters of the pan-national alliance for the country's reunification, and officials concerned.

Present on invitation were Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of Chondaehyop of South Korea, U Ho-il, head of the delegation of Korean youth and students in Japan, Choe Kyong-pu, head of the delegation of Korean youth in the Soviet Union, Cho Pong-hui, head of the delegation of Korean youth and students in China, the delegation of the South Korean Youth League in Japan headed by its vice-chairman Hwang Yong-chi, deputy-secretary of the Japan regional overseas headquarters of Pomminnyon [Pan-National Federation for Reunification] Sin Kwi-song and other delegates of overseas Koreans.

Choe Mun-son, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, made a welcome speech at the rally.

He warmly welcomed the delegates to the second pan-national rally and the delegates of youth and students who participated in the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for the promotion of national reunification.

He paid high tribute and extended warm greetings on behalf of the [words indistinct] dispatched its delegates to the northern half of the country to participate in the grand march for the promotion of national reunification starting from Mt. Paektu.

He noted that the seventy million Koreans in the North, South and overseas are vigorously conducting the nationwide grand march for reunification to achieve the reunification in the 1990s at any cost.

All Koreans must wage the movement and conduct the march for a great national unity leading to reunification under the banner of great national unity, whether they live in the North or South or overseas, Choe Mun-son stressed.

Kwon Chong-chol, head of the march squad, made a reply speech.

Our march squad will make a breach in the concrete wall built along the military demarcation line and reach the place of grand festival in Seoul without fail, bearing in mind the great expectation and desire of the entire nation hoping us to become vanguard of reunification and open the door for reunification, he said, and stressed:

With the firm will of our people for reunification kept in our heart, we will embrace our fellow students under Chondaehyop, a patriotic iron unit, at the grand festival in Seoul and sing songs of reunification together with them.

Speaking next, delegate Pak Song-hui of Chondaehyop said that our one million students would fight to achieve national reunification at any cost till 1995 even if they might fall down.

She stressed: I will vigorously advance along the road of reunification, the road covered by delegate Yim Sukyong, even if my body might be torn to pieces and reduced to a forlorn wandering spirit behind the bars.

Vowing in the name of Chondaehyop to achieve reunification in '90s on all accounts, delegate Song Yong-sung in his speech stressed that Chondaehyop of the one million students would fight to the end for the national reunification.

He concluded his speech by shouting "let us accelerate the national reunification."

Choe Song-su, chairman of the Choson University committee of the League of Korean Youth in Japan, spoke next on behalf of overseas Korean youth and students.

We will devoted ourselves to the fight to accelerate the noble cause of reunification with the united strength of the whole nation, together with hot-blooded youth and students in the North and the South, aware of being vanguard fighters of reunification who have an important mission of the reunification movement, he said.

The march squad which started from Mt. Paektu on August 7 arrived in Pyongyang today.

Large crowds of citizens and school youth and children shouting in chorus "Korea is one" and "national reunification" warmly welcomed along the long route from Pyongyang railway station to the Kim Il-song stadium the fine sons and daughters of the nation participating in the grand march for reunification.

On the way to Pyongyang, the squad had been warmly welcomed and farewelled by the people in Samjiyon, Hyesan, Kilju, Hamhung, Kowon, Pyongsong and other parts.

South Students, March Squad Welcomed

SK1208104091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—Members of the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march squad for the promotion of national reunification staying in Pyongyang visited various places of Pyongyang on August 11 and 12.

When the squad arrived at the Mansudae art studio creaters and employees warmly welcomed Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] of South Korea with bunches of flowers, shouting slogans "national reunification" and "bravo, Chondaehyop".

Members of the squad went round several creation rooms and art exhibition hall, being briefed on the history of the studio that has been turned into a centre of art creation under the wise leadership of our party.

Looking at art works showing the starting ceremony of the squad on top of Mt. Paektu August 7 and the arrival of delegate Pak Song-hui at the Pyongyang airport, delegates Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung were struck with admiration at wonderful art works creators made with their high skill in a few days.

At the art exhibition hall the members of the squad looked round with deep emotions excellent art works of our country depicting coed Yim Su-kyong, "flower of reunification" and visitors to the North Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Father Mun Kyu-hyon, Koryo celadons and double-faced embroidery articles.

Art works and souvenirs including gem pictures showing them, stone handiworks and porcelains were given to the delegates of Chondaehyop.

After visiting the studio, the delegates wrote in the visitors' book that "Chondaehyop" will fight to the end for a new day of the independence, democracy and reunification of the country.

Delegates of "Chondaehyop" and overseas compatriots were shown round the grand people's study house, the Pyongyang metro and other places.

Second South Korean Student Arrives in Pyongyang

SK1008120591 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Excerpt] Student Song Yong-sung, representative of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] in South Korea, the steely national salvation ranks, arrived in Pyongyang by plane on the afternoon of 10 August to join in the great Paektu-Halla march for the promotion of national reunification.

Driven by her single-minded determination to bring an end to the history of division and to hold, without fail, the Second Pan-national Rally and the great 15 August festival of the youth and students in the North and South and abroad for national reunification—events that are supposed to open an epoch-making phase in realizing national reunification—Pak Sung-hui, representative of Chondaehyop, had already come to Pyongyang. She broke through the fascist suppression of the outside and splittist forces with her heart's blood boiling and participated in the inaugural meeting of the great Paektu-Halla march for the promotion of national reunification launched on top of Mt Paektu. After this, student Song Yong-sung, representative of Chondaehyop, came to Pyongyang to join the great march.

Thousands of excited youth, students, and working people from the city came to the airport long before the plane arrived in order to welcome Representative Song Yong-sung, former director of policy planning department of the Student Committee for the Promotion of National Reunification at Konguk University, Seoul. She is a senior majoring in administration at the university. [passage omitted]

Daily on South's Treatment of Students in North

SK1008113691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 10 Aug 91

["Obstinate and Vicious Splittist Group"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u group blared that coed Pak Song-hui on a visit to Pyongyang as a delegate of the National Council of Student Represeatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea "will meet the same fate" as coed Yim Su-kyong's and that she will be punished under the "national security law" as soon she returns to South Korea.

Commenting on the No group's treacherous act, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

This is an open criminal act to stifle the pro-reunification patriotic forces and frustrate the shortly expected pan-national rally and reunification grand festival of students at any cost. This vividly shows what an obstinate and vicious anti-reunification element and fascist dictator No is.

Chondaehyop delegate Pak Song-hui and those concerned of the Pan-national Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) are a true patriotic student and patriotic figures who want reunification desired by the nation and are devoting themselves to reunification.

The suppression of such righteous-minded people only strips [as received] the No group bare as a despicable traitor group paying no heed to the country and the nation.

To struggle for national reunification in a divided country is a duty of every member of the nation and a token of patriotism.

Such reunification movement is made a target of suppression in South Korea. This shows that the South

Korean society is a society of fascist dictatorship, a closed society, without parallel in the world, where the elementary freedom and right of man are violated.

KSC Welcomes Meeting With South Newsmen

SK1208050391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee [KSC], in a statement to the press Saturday welcomed the offer of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) and the Federation of Seoul District University Gazetteers (Sodaeginyon) in South Korea to visit the northern half of the country for news coverage, regarding it as a positive initiative.

Chondaehyop and Sodaeginyon at a news conference on August 2 declared that they would make efforts to realize a visit to the North for the coverage of the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for the promotion of national reunification.

Saying the proposed visit to the North for news coverage being promoted by Chondaehyop and Sodaeginyon is a new initiative to deepen understanding between students in the North and the South and achieve unity under the banner of reunification, Choe Hyon-tok stressed:

If their offer to enter the North and cover news according to their own faith without interference or pressure of anyone is carried into practice, it will, no doubt, greatly help students in the North and the South deeply understand each other and renew their will for reunification.

From this point of view, we agree to the overture of Sodaeginyon and hope that the reporters of Sodaeginyon will start their news coverage in the North on August 13, if possible, so they can cover all the functions concerning the second pan-national rally and the grand festival of students in the North and the South and overseas for reunification together with us.

We propose to have a contact between delegates of the KSC and Sodaeginyon in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 10 A.M. [0100 GMT] on August 12 in order to discuss working matters in this connection.

Defector From South Gives Interview to KCNA

SK0908154291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 9 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-kyu, a South Korean student studying at Shinshu University of Japan, who defected to the northern half of the country, are [as received] spending happy days in the bosom of the republic.

He was interviewed by a KCNA reporter today with pleasure of his comimg over to the North where the dignity of the nation shines, chuche character is strong and everyone enjoys a happy life.

Saying that the reality of the northern half of the republic is a society that he had dreamed of as ideal, he added:

I lived in Kuro District, Seoul, South Korea, studied at Kobe Computer Special School and Tokyo Kaigo (foreign languages) School from April, 1987 and entered the Shinshu University of Japan in April, 1989.

I studied together with South Korean student Kim Hyong-kuk in the second grade of the information management course of the management faculty of Shinshu University in Higashimida 2-1-1, Tama District, Gawasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture, guided by Prof. and Dr. Saito in charge.

Seeing publications and videos introducing the reality of the North in this course I have come to have correct understanding of the society where everyone works and lives evenly, the North which advances with national dignity.

Endless is my joy of being embraced in the bosom of the republic where I will live.

Referring to his happiness, he said:

Seeing Pyongyang in which Kwangbok and Chongchun Streets and magnificent monumental edifices have been built, I strongly felt that here is the place to flower my hope. [sentence as received]

I think that the road I have chosen myself and I am walking along is right, indeed.

Commentator on Nuclear Inspection of Both Koreas

SK1208044391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Presumptuous Act of Colonial Puppets"]

[Text] At a time when the people at home and abroad have raised voices supporting the 30 July statement by the DPRK Foreign Ministry on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, the South Korean puppets are acting counter to this.

According to a report, the puppet assistant foreign minister raved that we did not mention in the plan acceptance of nuclear inspection while proposing denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. He further babbled that the proposal for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is aimed at diverting the focal point of international public opinion elsewhere and at enforcing the withdrawal of nuclear weapons of the U.S. forces in South Korea.

These are presumptuous remarks of the colonial puppet and a vicious challenge and mockery against the people at home and abroad who demand denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

As is known to every one, we have neither the intention nor the capability of developing nuclear weapons. We have repeatedly manifested that we are ready to accept nuclear inspection. Such a position by us was clearly shown by the fact that we agreed on the standard text of guarantee at a conference with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] some time ago.

What we oppose is not the nuclear inspection itself but the act of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, their faithful stooges, who are unilaterally enforcing the nuclear inspection on us, who have no nuclear weapons, while ignoring South Korea, where nuclear weapons exist.

No one in the world thinks that our country is posing a nuclear threat to the United States. Insisting on nuclear inspection only on us while ignoring South Korea—a base for attack and a nuclear base—is not fair, and runs counter to the purpose of nuclear inspection. This is not convincing to any one.

Even a South Korean paper wrote that according to the assertions of the rascals in the South, denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the nuclear weapons of U.S. troops in South Korea cannot be the topics of discussion and that only the issue of nuclear inspection in the North and its abandonment of the development of nuclear weapons can be discussed. The paper wondered how such discussions possibly could be held and how the questions of one side could be discussed without presenting the issues of the other side.

In actuality, the U.S. imperialists have deployed approximately 1,000 various nuclear weapons in South Korea and have staged the Team Spirit war exercise, a test nuclear war and preliminary war, with the puppets each year, thus leading the situation in our country to the brink of war.

Furthermore, the U.S. imperialists, who have become extremely arrogant after the Persian Gulf war, have drawn up even a scenario for a 120-day war which is premised on the use of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets raised the issue of nuclear inspection of us while staging nuclear war exercises every day, threatening our Republic after having deployed numerous nuclear weapons in South Korea. This is the expression of an outdated way of thinking of a dominationist.

Therefore, a broad range of global public opinion today sternly denounces the nuclear war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, maintaining that nuclear inspection, if it is to be conducted, should be equally conducted in both the North and the South, and actively supports our proposal for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

This notwithstanding, the South Korean puppets raved that our fair and just denuclearization proposal is aimed at diverting the focal point of international public opinion elsewhere, while talking about nuclear inspection and so forth. This is a shameless act of those who are accustomed to reversing black and white. This more clearly shows the ugly nature of the No Tae-u group as a faithful war servant and guard who are watching the U.S. imperialists' nuclear weapons.

By permanently keeping the approximately 40,000 U.S. imperialist aggressor troops and 1,000 nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the No Tae-u group is attempting to perpetuate our nation's division, to repress by means of force the South Korean people's struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification, and to realize its ambition for long-term power. However, this is a foolish fantasy.

At present, mankind demands the abolition of nuclear weapons from the earth, the removal of their threat, and the withdrawal of aggressor forces who occupy other countries. Thus, the entire world is heading in this direction. No one can block the trend of the times with anything. The U.S. troops and nuclear weapons cannot be kept in South Korea forever.

The No Tae-u group should discard shameless sophistry which can convince no one, and should demand the withdrawal of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. If the No Tae-u group attempts to continually keep the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea by running counter to the trend of the times, it will face greater denunciation from the people at home and abroad.

Kim Il-song Reunification Stand Lauded

SK1208061391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo August 9 (KNS-KCNA)—The new line of achieving the great unity of the nation laid down by the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song in "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our Nation" is a highly important guideline which gives flawless answers to theoretical and practical questions arising in solving the national reunification problem; it is a great reunification programme and inspiring banner that shows to the whole nation a short cut to reunification and calls it forth to the sacred cause of reunification.

Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), declared this in a statement issued to the press on August 9.

He pointed out:

The idea and policy of achieving the great unity of the nation is a patriotic banner which can be lifted only by the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song who, with his greatest magnanimity, has made our Korean residents in Japan full-fledged masters of the cause of reunification together with the entire people at home and overseas: It is the most sagacious save-the-nation programme for reunification which makes it possible to decisively smash the schemings of a tiny handful of splittists by the overwhelming majority of the driving force of reunification.

We will make maximum effort to further strengthen national unity among the Korean residents in Japan from all walks of life, realise great national unity with the people in the North, South and overseas and strengthen and develop it.

We will wage an energetic nation-wide struggle to shatter all manner of splittist moves of the anti-reunification forces with united strength, make the "National Security Law", an obstacle to reunification, abolished, the barrier of division pulled down, the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

Reunification, Denuclearization Concert Held

SK1208062091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—An evening of music for peace against nuclear weapons and war and for great national unity and reunification in Korea was held at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre Sunday.

Present there were Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North side's headquarters of the pan-national alliance for the country's reunification; Chang Chol, vice-premier and minister of culture and art; Yo Yon-ku and Chon Kum-chol, vice-chairmen of the North side's headquarters of the alliance; Song Ho-kyong, vice-minister of foreign affairs; Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee; and North side's delegates to the '91 pan-national rally and the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North and the South and overseas and artistes.

Also present were Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sung, delegates of the National Council of Student Representatives of South Korea, and delegates of overseas students who are now participating in the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for reunification.

The colorful program included the piano concerto "Korea Is One", the male bass solo "O Korea, I Will Add Glory to Thee", the second movement of Yun I-sang's Violin Concerto No. 2 and Symphony No. 1.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience for their successful representation of the unshakable will of the Korean people to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone.

North Postpones Sports Talks Due to Defector

SK1208055591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0537 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the DPRK Olympic Committee, notified the South side that inter-Korean sports talks will have to be postponed because the latter allured a muscleman of the North side participating in an international judo tournament in Spain and took him to Seoul and is now making quite a noise about "refuge," throwing a dark shadow over the prospect of the fifth sports talks.

In a telephone message today to Kim Chong-yol, chairman of the South Korean Olympic Committee, he called attention to the fact that the South side committed such a very dastardly and insidious act at a time when the whole nation was pleased with the results registered by the first unified teams of the North and the South at the 41st world table tennis championships and the 6th world youth soccer championships.

He said:

I consider this behavior of your side an unimaginable anti-national act which can and should never be done either in view of the purport of the sports talks between the North and the South or in view of the fundamental spirit of the unified teams and a premeditated, intentional provocation against all the sportsmen in the northern half of the country.

Truth to tell, some sportsmen of the South side who dropped in Pyongyang on their way home after participating in matches as members of a unified soccer team expressed time and again their willingness to remain in the North, attracted by our socialist system whose masters are the people. But, taking into consideration the precious successes of the unified teams and reconciliation and unity of the nation, we took a step of sending them back by repeatedly persuading them that when the country is reunified in the future they could come to the North and conduct sports activities and enjoy a happy life.

On the contrary, however, your side needlessly approached our player who was participating in a normal sports activity at international games and lured him to South Korea through a submission work.

The entire sportsmen in the northern half of our Republic find it hard to repress towering rage at the base act of your side, regarding the sinister act of your side as a grave challenge to the on-going sports talks between the North and the South.

Your side must bear responsibility before the nation for the grave effect of the wrong act upon the North-South sports talks, the formation of single teams in the future and the North-South relations as a whole.

From this point of view, we urge your side to frankly apologize for the criminal act and unconditionally send our player back to the northern half of the country where his parents and colleagues are waiting for him, if your side truly has the intention to have sports talks with us and form single teams.

We notify you that we could not but postpone the North-South dialogue slated on August 17 till your side has paid a serious attention to this just demand and taken a proper step.

Korean Students Committee Art Troupe Inaugurated

SK1208062591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0514 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—A cultural and art troupe of the Korean Students Committee [KSC] to participate in the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, South and overseas was inaugurated with a due ceremony on Sunday.

The inaugural ceremony was participated in by No Yon-ku, vice-chairperson of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification, university presidents and college rectors, and other personages concerned and members of the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march squad for the promotion of national reunification.

Choe Hyon-dok, chairman of the Korean Students Committee, made public the list of the names of the members of the cultural and art troupe of the KSC and delivered a speech of encouragement.

He said the soon-to-be-held Seoul cultural festival is not merely an art performance but a significant grand art festival for the entire people and students in the North, South and overseas to keep step with each other in one mind and purpose, confirm the idea and will of reunification and deepen fellowship and unity among them.

The art troupe should fully demonstrate in Seoul that the spirit of the nation carried forward pure by our nation for 5,000 years has not become "heterogeneous" at all and the blood of the nation is one and so is the emotion of the nation, he pointed out.

Choe Tae-yong, head of the cultural and art troupe, in his speech vowed to fully demonstrate in Seoul that the reunification will of our nation is rock-firm. We will make all efforts to let the brothers in the South read in our looks the ardent desire of the people in the northern half of the country for reunification and their compatriotic feelings. The ceremony was followed by an art performance.

Daily on U.S Military Strategy of Domination

SK1108105991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0849 GMT 11 Aug 91

["U.S. Imperialists' 'Long-Term Military Strategy' To Dominate Asia"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an article exposing the aggressive nature of the "long-term military strategy" worked by the U.S. imperialists to establish their exclusive domination and control over the Asia-Pacific region.

Recalling that U.S. Defence Secretary Cheney at a meeting of the Budget Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives some time ago blared that the U.S. "long-term military strategy" for the Asian-Pacific region is to defend the U.S. interest with small expenses by keeping its troops in Japan and South Korea for a long period and imposing a bigger burden of the cost upon the host nations, the paper says:

The U.S. imperialists' "long-term military strategy" in the Asia-Pacific region is, in essence, a strategy of strength for domination and subjugation, interference and aggression, which is little different from the military strategy they have pursued so far.

It is, above all, an aggressive strategy to deploy the U.S. troops in this region for a long period. The U.S. military quarters invariably take a serious view of the strategy of deployment in the forward area, stressing the importance of securing forward bases in advance in view of the lesson of the Persian Gulf war which was waged without the advance deployment of U.S. forces.

This is why high-placed quarters of the U.S. Defence Department said that withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea is not the U.S. intention and that the United States will keep its armed forces there.

The U.S. imperialists' "long-term military strategy" is a strategy of strength to commit interference and aggression against the countries in this region.

They raise it as the "U.S. vital interest" to dominate this region blessed with rich human and material resources and military strategic vantages, crying that "the 21st century will be the Pacific era".

Citing concrete facts proving that the U.S. imperialists are getting feverish in their attempt to ignite a new war on the Korean peninsula, regarding it as "the greatest danger spot where a limited war may break out" at present, the paper continues:

Facts show that the U.S. imperialists intend to commit an open armed action on the Korean peninsula in reliance on their troops deployed in the Asia-Pacific region.

The U.S. imperialists' "long-term military strategy" in this region vividly shows once again that there is no change in their aggressive nature and their policy of strength.

Daily on 'Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle' Month

SK1008053691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Peace and reunification of Korea are a unanimous demand of the world's people, says NODONG SINMUN today in an editorial upon the close of the June 25-July 27 month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

During the month, party and state leaders and political parties and public organizations of different countries and international organizations expressed solidarity for the Korean people's cause of national reunification and colorful functions including the "international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification" were held worldwide, the paper says, and continues:

The month of anti-U.S. joint struggle this year marked an important occasion in further strengthening and developing the international solidarity movement for the Korean people's just cause of getting the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea, establishing a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean peninsula and achieving the reunification of Korea.

We express deep thanks to the governments, political parties and public organizations, political, social and academic figures and people of all walks of life of all countries for their active support and encouragement to our people's struggle for peace and reunification of the country during the month.

Even today when the international situation is heading for detente, the United States is persistently resorting to its policy of aggression and war only on the Korean peninsula, aggravating tensions.

The U.S. imperialists have made preparations to start a nuclear war in Korea and, to justify it, are carrying on a campaign against the DPRK while spreading lies about "North Korea's nuclear development," the editorial notes, and further says:

This is a vicious challenge to the Korean people and the world people who want peace and reunification of Korea and a criminal act going against the trend of the times.

If the United States truly desire reunification and peace on the Korean peninsula it must discard its anachronistic Korean policy and fulfil its obligation in solving the Korean question.

We are convinced that the world's progressive people will as ever extend invariable support and encouragement to our people's just cause of peace and reunification of Korea.

Days of the DPRK Function Opens in Kirghizia

SK1108100291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 9 (KCNA)—An opening ceremony of the function of "Days of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" was held in Kirghizia, the Soviet Union, on August 5.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers of Kirghizia said:

The function of "Days of the DPRK" will demonstrate that the friendly and cooperative relations between Kirghizia and the DPRK are solid and will help toward further expanding and developing it in the future.

The South Pyongan Provincial Art Troupe of Korea gave a congratulatory performance on the opening of the function.

The opening ceremony was followed by a reception.

Kye Ung-tae Meets CPC Delegation

SK1108111391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0858 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], met and had a friendly conversation with a delegation of the cadres of the Communist Party of China led by An Pingxeng, member of the Central Advisory Commission of the CPC [Control of Personnel Center], at the Mansudae assembly hall today.

Noting that the Korean people have made enormous achievements in socialist construction under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Secretary Kim Chong-il and the Workers' Party of Korea, the head of the delegation said that this shows the sagacity of the leadership of the WPK and the advantages of the socialist system.

He said that he was greatly inspired by the achievements registered by the Korean comrades.

He resolved to further strengthen and develop the friendship forged in blood between the two parties, two countries and two peoples of China and Korea.

Delegation of Japan's Korean Youth League Visits

SK1108102991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0835 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of the South Korean Youth League in Japan headed by its Vice-chairman Hwang Yong-Chi arrived in Pyongyang Saturday to participate in the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march for the promotion of national reunification and the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North and the South and overseas.

The members of the delegation were met at the airport with compatriotic feelings by Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairperson of the North side's headquarters of the pan-national alliance for the country's reunification, Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of the Korean students committee, and other officials concerned.

On the same day, Sin Kwi-song, deputy secretary of the Japan regional headquarters of Pomminnyon [Pan-National Federation for Reunification], arrived here.

Japanese Director Gives Interview to KCNA

SK1008121391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Ryosho Hayashi, chief director of the Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association, told a KCNA reporter his impressions of Korea before leaving for home.

During my stay in Korea, I deeply felt the advantages of the people-first socialist system in the looks of the Korean people who are shaping a bright future full of hopes, he said, and went on:

The Korean people are making many admirable achievements in socialist construction. It is a great wonder that the Korean people who had experienced the 36 year colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists and the three-year war have gained such success under the difficult circumstances in which the country is divided.

President Kim Il-song has established chuche against flunkeyism and dogmatism in the whole course of leading the revolution and construction.

Always finding himself among people, he believes in their strength, organises and mobilizes them in socialist construction and solves all problems in conformity with the specific conditions of Korea.

He guides officials to go down among people with knapsacks on their backs and meet their demands.

President Kim Il-song is, indeed, the great leader of the people who has noble endowments.

All the achievements in Korea today are the brilliant fruition of the politics of the great love of President Kim Il-song and Secretary Kim Chong-il.

Cuban Envoy Hosts Month of Solidarity Reception

SK1008045391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega gave a reception at his embassy Friday on the occasion of the "month of solidarity with the Cuban people."

Speaking at the reception, he said that the "month of solidarity with the Cuban people" on the 38th anniversary of the July 26 armed uprising of the Cuban people greatly inspired the Cuban people in their arduous struggle against Yankee imperialism.

He said he gained through the functions held in the month a better knowledge of the greatness of the two parties and the bravery of the two peoples guided by the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and Supreme Commander Comrade Fidel Castro.

Noting that the Cuban people are well aware that the Korean people are building and defending socialism by their own efforts in the eastern hemisphere, he said the peoples of the two countries should advance in unity in socialist construction and in the struggle to safeguard socialism and thus indicate the road to be followed by the world revolutionaries.

He stated that Cuba which has supported the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea will express invariable support to the Korean people in the future in accomplishing their noble cause.

Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, spoke next.

The successful holding on the "month of solidarioy with the Cuban people" is a manifestation of the Korean people's firm solidarity with the fraternal Cuban people, he said, adding:

The Cuban people are dynamically advancing towards socialism, closely rallied around the Communist Party of Cuba. The 11th Pan-American Games are now successfully going on, which demonstrates the might of socialist Cuba.

Wishing the Cuban people greater success in their endeavours to greet the 4th congress of the Communist Party of Cuba with high political and labour success and carry revolution to accomplishment, he said that the Korean people will vigorously advance towards the victory of socialist and communist construction, shoulder to shoulder with the Cuban people.

Month of Solidarity Closes

SK1108101391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0825 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—The month of solidarity with the Cuban people came to a close in Korea.

A closing meeting took place Saturday at the Korea-Cuba friendship Pyongyang textile machine factory.

Speaking at the meeting, manager of the factory Kim Hong-chun said:

With the victory of the Cuban revolution organised and led by respected Comrade Fidel Castro, the Cuban people were completely liberated from colonial exploitation and oppression and they have built the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere of the globe.

After the victory of the socialist revolution the heroic Cuban people have confidently advanced along the road of socialism, repulsing the repeated aggression and blockade of the U.S. imperialists. They are now attaining splendid achievements in labour under the slogan "production and defence" with the approach of the 4th congress of the Communist Party of Cuba and fully demonstrating the dignity and grand appearance of the socialist motherland.

We express full support to and firm solidarity with the Cuban people in their just struggle to put an end to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of Guantanamo, win territorial integrity of the country and ensure peace and security in the Caribbean and Central America.

We will make all efforts to further strengthen and develop friendship and cooperation with the Cuban people.

He wished the Cuban people greater success in the work to defend the gains of revolution and the sovereignty of the country, smashing the U.S. imperialists' moves.

Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega spoke next.

Through the functions held in the month of solidarity I deeply felt the sentiments of warm friendship of the Korean people for the Cuban people. The friendship and unity between the two peoples are growing stronger and developing day by day, he said.

The great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and Supreme Commander Comrade Fidel Castro are bringing the flowers of friendship between the two countries into full bloom, he stressed.

Saying that the Yankee troops must be withdrawn from South Korea for the reunification of Korea, he stated that Cuba will actively support the fair and aboveboard proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the reunification of the country in the future, too.

He expressed deepest thanks to the great leader of the Korean people Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il for always expressing active solidarity with the Cuban people.

Kim Il-song Sends Flowers to Castro for Birthday

SK1008130091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a floral basket to the Cuban Embassy in Pyongyang on the 65th birthday of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

The floral basket was handed to Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega today.

Present on the occasion were Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Chae-suk and other officials concerned and officials of the Cuban Embassy.

Government Holds Reception for Castro's Birthday

SK1108095491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0815 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea hosted a reception Saturday evening on the occasion of the 65th birthday of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Invited to the reception were Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega, his embassy officials and other Cuban guests.

Pak Sung-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister; Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the C.C., the WPK; and officials concerned were present.

Vice-president Pak Song-chol made a speech at the reception.

Warmly congratulating respected Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, a great revolutionary produced by the Cuban people and the closest friend of the Korean people, on his 65th birthday, the vice-president said his birth was a national event heralding the dawn of the Cuban revolution.

He noted that Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz has devoted his life entirely to the Cuban revolution and to the completion of the cause of the working class till today from the time when he set out on the road of revolutionary struggle in his early years.

Recalling that the heroic Cuban people have decisively smashed the repeated blockade by the U.S. imperialists and firmly defended the gains of revolution, he stressed that Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz clarified the stand that Cuba would never exchange the principle of revolution with money in face of the evermore wanton anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists and put forward the revolutionary motto "socialism or death, we will win".

The victory of the Cuban revolution and all the achievements and changes on the soilof Cuba are unthinkable apart from the energetic activities of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, he said, and continued:

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out that the particular comradely intimacy and revolutionary sense of obligation between the great leader Comrade

Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz are a solid bedrock and undying viability of the friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the Korean and Cuban peoples. The two peoples will always share the same destiny in the same trench as eternal allies and comrades-in-arms for the victory of the cause of socialism.

The Cuban ambassador said in his speech:

After the victory of revolution the Cuban people under the leadership of then Cuban party and Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz have consolidated socialism by their devoted efforts. Cuba today has been turned into an impregnable fortress through the mobilisation of the entire people.

The Cuban and Korean are entrusted with the historic duty to safeguard socialism. The Cuban and Korean revolutionaries will carry the historic mission to thorough fulfilment.

The two peoples are peoples adhering to the revolutionary principle. As long as there are great parties and Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, the great leaders, our two countries will always and invariably keep to this principle.

Turning to the question of Korea's reunification, he said that Cuba will as ever support the Korean people in their struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Cuba and Korea will dynamically advance, flying two red flags till the final victory of revolution, he said.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Zambian Leader

SK1208062791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on August 11 sent a message of greetings to Kenneth David Kaunda on his reelection as chairman of the United National Independence Party of Zambia.

Comrade Kim Il-song said that the reelection of Kenneth David Kaunda as chairman of the party at its 1st special congress is an expression of the deep trust and expectation of the entire party members and the people of Zambia in him.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and peoples will grow stronger and develop in the future, he wishes the chairman greater success in his responsible work for the strengthening and development of the United National Independence Party of Zambia, national unity and the prosperity of the country.

Kim Il-song Greets Central African President

SK1108110491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0856 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 11 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Andre Kolingba, president and head of state of the Republic of Central Africa and founder-chairman of the Democratic Rally of Central Africa, on his 55th birthday.

The message congratulated him on his birthday and wished him good health and happiness.

Kim Il-song Cables Chadian President

SK1008121691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Idris Deby, president and head of state of the Republic of Chad, on the independence day of Chad.

President Kim Il-song in the message wished the Chadian president and people greater success in the efforts for national unity and prosperity of the country, and expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would further strengthen and develop.

Ugandan Visitor Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il

SK1008045191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Yoweri Museveni, president of the Republic of Uganda.

The gift was handed to Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, by head of the visiting delegation of the Ugandan National Resistance Movement Erlya Kategaya, national political commissar of the movement and first deputy prime minister of the Republic of Uganda.

WPK Delegation Returns Home From Nicaragua

SK1008043091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 2 Aug 91

[Text] On 2 August, the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] delegation led by Yi Mong-ho, member of the Central Committee of the WPK and secretary of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, that had participated in the first meeting of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, returned home by plane.

Kim Hyong-u, deputy director of a department of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Ivan Ariel Mejia Solis, Nicaraguan ambassador to the DPRK, were on hand at the airport to welcome the delegation.

Kim Il-song's Role in Armed Forces Viewed

SK1008140691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0600 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Unattributed talk: "Great Exploits That Will Shine For Generations to Come—the Founding of the First Chuche-Type Revolutionary Armed Forces"]

[Text] Among the immortal exploits the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song achieved before the fatherland and the cause of independence for mankind is the shining feat in his leadership of creating a new watershed for national liberation struggle by founding the chuche-type revolutionary armed forces during the darkest period of our revolution.

The beginning of the 1930's, one of the darkest periods in the chronicle of our revolution, was a period when a serious and pressing question loomed: whether or not to bear arms. Whether to put our people's mass movement for independence on a path toward victory or make them fall and remain fallen forever under the tyrannical swords of the Japanese imperialists, who had embarked upon the road of invading the Continent, was a serious and urgent issue. However, with the imperialist rule at its extreme in our country, creating a revolutionary armed force was not an enterprise that virtually anyone could do.

Although history has recorded many armed struggles against outside aggressors and domestic opponents, it had never known a country like ours, which founded armed forces even when it had lost all of its territory, power, economics, and resources to outside aggressors, and even without the rear of the nation [kukkajok hubang] or the foundation for a national army.

To found a chuche-type revolutionary armed force under such difficult conditions was a feat that could be performed only by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the founder of the great chuche idea and the genius of the revolution.

Finding, with a firm conviction, the urgent situation created by the Japanese imperialist aggressors' forced occupation of Manchuria to be an excellent opportunity to stage a mass anti-Japanese armed struggle, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song called the historic (?Myongwolgu) meeting in December 1931.

At the meeting the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, while fully explaining scientific strategy and policy designed to organize and put in motion an armed struggle against the Japanese imperialists, gave the following teachings: It is time for us all to take up arms and rise up in the sacred war for national liberation. Let us mobilize all the patriotic forces that are against the Japanese imperialists, regardless of whether they are rich or poor, noble or humble, and regardless of the difference in their political and religious views, in the armed struggle.

It was the popular masses that the great leader always firmly trusted even when he set out the chuche-oriented line for the armed struggle at the historic Kalun meeting, and when he was accelerating the preparations for an armed struggle after founding the Korean Revolutionary Army.

Again it was the popular masses' strength on which the great leader relied in boldly solving all the problems after putting forward a unique policy on founding a standing revolutionary army of our own as part of preparations for organizing and putting in motion the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

What was important in preparing for the founding of the people's anti-Japanese [panil] guerrilla units was to organize the armed ranks and equip them with arms.

By sending party and League of Communist Youth cadre members who had attended the historic (?Myongwolgu) meeting, members of the Korean Revolutionary Army, and political operatives to the broad area along Tuman River, the great leader expanded and strengthened the revolutionary organizations there and made the chastened and tested core members join the armed ranks. At the same time, he vigorously beckoned the masses to a struggle for obtaining weapons under such political slogans as "Arms are our life" and "Arms against arms."

In response to these appeals, a small group of guerrilla members, members of the League of Communist Youth, and members of the Red Guards staged a bold struggle to wrestle weapons away from the enemy in many places across the country.

Members of a children's vanguard unit, women, children, and even old people rose up in the struggle to obtain weapons. The preparatory work for an armed struggle was a very vast and complicated, and it had encountered many difficulties and tribulations.

Difficulties upon difficulties plagued the program of laying the mass-oriented foundation for an armed struggle, and they seriously threatened the effort to form a united front with the anti-Japanese [panil] units.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song overcame these grave difficulties standing at the head of the struggle, through his perseverance, unrivaled devotion, and stubborn will to continue the revolution.

When the revolutionization of a village ran into trouble, the great leader made up his mind to sneak into the village, where the enemy's guard was so strong that no one had ever succeeded in establishing a foothold, disguising himself as a servant. Hearing this, members of his organization were embarrassed. He said to them: We are determined to lay down our lives for the revolution, so what is wrong with the idea of playing servants?

The great leader spared nothing for the revolution and risked his life for it. Even in the face of such hardship and difficulties as having to sleep in unheated rooms during the cold winter nights, with no blanket to cover himself and only a wooden pillow, with no proper meals except gruel-like corn porridge, the great leader felt greater pain at the thought of his fellow countrymen moaning under the suppression than at the thought of his own pitiful position. Even so, he persistently continued his indomitable struggle in order to open for the people a new breakthrough.

Thanks to the great leader's devoted struggle, the work of cementing the mass-oriented foundation for an armed struggle kept progressing successfully.

Stung by our people's new revolutionary advent, the Japanese imperialist aggressors went so far as to organize the notorious Kanto Punitive Expedition and submerged villages of the Korean people in a sea of fire and blood indiscriminately.

Adding trouble to the preparations for an armed struggle in addition to the last-hour maneuvers of the Japanese imperialists was the behavior of the anti-Japanese [panil] units that regarded the Korean communists with hostility after being cheated by the Japanese imperialists' deceptive propaganda and by the maneuvers of [name indistinct].

The great leader solved this problem by visiting an anti-Japanese unit in the capital of (?Ando) Province, arguing: How can anyone carry out his revolutionary tasks, which may require sacrifice, if he fears dangers?

Thanks to such a wise guidance and indomitable struggle by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the first chuche-type revolutionary armed forces, something our Korean communists and people so ardently hoped for, were founded in a short period of time, only two years after the chuche-oriented lines for armed struggle had been put forward at the Kalun meeting and only four months after the strategic policy for organizing and staging an anti-Japanese armed struggle had been presented at the (?Myongwolgu) meeting.

The foundation of the anti-Japanese guerrilla unit was solemnly declared on 25 April 1932 in a historically significant [name indistinct]. It was a brilliant fruition of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's great ideology, lines, and outstanding leadership.

The birth of the first chuche-type revolutionary armed forces was a great event of staggering historical significance in our people's anti-Japanese resitance struggle and national struggle for liberation from colonization.

It bred an emotion and new, unending legends among our people which said: "Korean soldiers flew on the clouds and landed on Mt. Paektu" and "Since tens of thousands of generals have come in droves under the command of General Kim Il-song, the day of Korea's liberation is not far away." The excitement had spread to the (?colony's east) and even to distant continents, planting in the hearts of the suppressed great hope and encouragement.

Indeed, with the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song establishing the chuche-type revolutionary armed forces by taking the untrodden path during our people's most difficult and darkest period, our country's anti-Japanese national liberation struggle entered a new stage of development focused on the armed struggle, and our people were able to achieve the sacred cause of national reunification by defeating the armed enemy with arms.

It was from this time on that the historical roots of our revolutionary armed forces began to strike, and unlimited noble traditions came into being.

Thanks to these shining traditions, our revolutionary armed forces were able to grow stronger as modern regular armed forces in such a short period following national liberation, were able to achieve great victory in the arduous Fatherland Liberation War fought against the united imperialist forces led by the U.S. imperialists, and were able to guarantee the chuche revolutionary cause.

Indeed, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has achieved immortal exploits that will shine forever in the clean history of the fatherland by founding our people's genuine revolutionary armed forces, the anti-Japanese guerrilla units during the darkest period of the national sufferings, and then setting in motion the great anti-Japanese war.

Each and everyone of our people who are looking back on the long course our revolution has traversed and on the immortal revolutionary exploits achieved by the great leader finds his heart filled with boundless national pride and self-esteem.

Our people will defend and glorify the great leader's immortal exploits forever and inherit and consummate the leader's revolutionary cause, the chuche revolutionary cause, to the end, under the leadership of a great party.

Kim Il-song's Work Published in Three Languages

SK1208110291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1019 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—The foreign languages press group recently published in English, French and Spanish the second edition of "Let Us Further Strengthen the Socialist System of Our Country," the speech of the great leader President Kim Il-song at the first session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in December 1972.

In the work, President Kim Il-song says the struggle for the socialist revolution and the building of socialism is to transform the old relations of production in town and country on socialist lines, maintain the basic line of building the socialist economy by giving priority to the development of heavy industry and simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture and push ahead with both the work of laying the material and technical foundation of socialism and the work of reeducating people on communist lines.

He states that our socialist system is the best social system where the working masses are masters of everything and where everything in society serves them.

He explains the main content of the socialist constitution of the DPRK which legislatively affirms the political victories and successes attained by our people in the revolutionary struggle in the past years and defines the character and functions of our state and the principles of its activity to meet the demand of our revolutionary development.

In order to consolidate and develop the socialist system, we must continue to dynamically promote the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions, strengthen the organs of power and improve their functions and role, he says in the work.

KCNA Review of 10 Aug Pyongyang Press

SK1008050891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang August 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a photo-accompanied report that the great leader President Kim Il-song received a delegation of the Ugandan National Resistance Movement and news that Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Yoweri Museveni, president of the Republic of Uganda.

Appearing in the press is a statement issued to the press by Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, in support of "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our Nation," a work of President Kim Il-song. Papers round up repercussions of this work upon public figures of various countries.

President Kim Il-song received a letter from the participants in a meeting held in Sri Lanka in support of the joint statement of the DPRK political parties and public organisations, says NODONG SINMUN. A lecture was given in India on "Let Us Shatter Imperialist Moves Towards Aggression and War and Safeguard Peace and Independence", a work of President Kim Il-song, according to the press.

Papers dedicate articles to the 51st anniversary of the historical Xiaohaerbaling meeting at which President Kim Il-song put forward a new strategic task of actively preparing for the great event of national liberation (August 10, 1940).

"Our Socialism For the People Will Not Perish," a work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, was studied and disseminated abroad, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was conveyed to the medical workers of the People's Hospital No. 2 in Tokchon, South Pyongan Province, who have rendered medical services well for the workers of the Sungni general motor works.

Carried in the paper is an editorial titled "Peace and Reunification of Korea Is Unanimous Demand of World People" upon the successful closure of the June 25-July 27 month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

"It Is Unshakable Will of Our Party To Accomplish Revolutionary Cause by Carrying Forward the Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Traditions" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article contributed by Dr. Kang Chon-kum.

MINJU CHOSON dedicates an article captioned "Nationalisation of Major Industries Is Event of Epochal Significance in Consolidating Economic Foundation of Independent Sovereign State" to the 45th anniversary of the publication of the law on the nationalisation of major industries.

Econews of the press includes reports that the Hambuk Shipbuilding complex is pushing ahead simultaneously with the building of a 20,000 ton cargo ship and a large passenger boat and the after-treatment system project is stepped up at the final stage at the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex.

Papers observe the Forestry Workers' Day (August 10).

The Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march squad for the promotion of national reunification which had left Hyesan was warmly welcomed in Hamhung, says the press.

Young people in Yanggang Province conducted an excursion march to Chong-il Peak on the occasion of the First Youth Day (August 28), according to NODONG SINMUN.

Appearing in the press are reports that the chairman of the Cuban committee for supporting Korea's reunification said the "Havana-Pyongyang Friendship Fountain" is a symbol of indestructible friendship and that the Cuban ambassador to the DPRK gave a reception on the occasion of the "month for solidarity with the Cuban people".

An agreement on cooperation in the forestry domain was signed in Pyongyang between the governments of the DPRK and the RSFSR, says NODONG SINMUN.

The paper introduces the July 26 information of the KPA-CPV [Korean People's Army-Chinese People's

Volunteers] side to the Korean Military Armistice Commission which was distributed as official document of the U.N. Security Council S-22839.

Chong Nak-ho, a resident in Uijongbu, Kyonggi Province, South Korea, defected to the northern half of the country, says the press.

It is reported in papers that the Alliance of Christian Social Movement of South Korea decided to take an active part in the Seoul pan-national rally (PNR) and students of Chonnam National University held a rally to support the visit to the North by the delegate of Chondaehyop and vow to make the reunification festival a success.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary denouncing the schemings of the South Korean authorities to frustrate the PNR and grand reunification festival of students.

It carries an article headlined "Democratisation of South Korean Society Is Indispensable Requisite to National Reunification".

World public exposed and condemned brutal violations of human rights and suppression by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet ruling group, says the paper.

Solidarity for the Korean people's cause of national reunification was expressed and the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula demanded in different countries, says the press.

In a commentary NODONG SINMUN says that the successful Pan American Games now under way demonstrates the desire of the Latin American countries for independence.

The press reports that the Soviet minister of communications referred to the conditions of the country's railways, a ceremony for peace on the "anti-atomic bomb day" was held in Japan, the British paper GUARDIAN said the United States tried to attack Japan with chemical weapons toward the close of the second world war and the French weekly magazine L' EXPRESS carried an article exposing the declining situation of the United States.

Papers deal with the question of holding a Mid-East peace conference and different reaction of the countries concerned to it.

"U.S. Trade Protectionism Under Fire" is the title of a NODONG SINMUN article.

KCNA Review of 12 Aug NODONG SINMUN

SK1208063891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0526 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries messages of greetings sent by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to Kenneth David Kaunda upon his reelection as chairman of the United National Independence Party of Zambia and to Andre Kolingba, president and head of state of the Central African Republic and founder-chairman of the Democratic Rally of Central Africa, on his 55th birthday.

The great leader President Kim Il-song received solidarity messages and letters from different countries on the occasion of the month of international solidarity with the Korean people, reports the daily.

Appearing in the paper is a statement issued to the press by the chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party in support of the line of great national unity clarified by President Kim Il-song.

The paper tells that South Korean people hold in high esteem and follow the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as the lodestar of the nation.

Printed in the paper is a poem by Congolese musician Joseph Ntari under the title "Comrade Kim Chong-il".

Echoed in the paper are voices of foreign party and state leaders expressing full support to the proposal advanced by President Kim Il-song for Korea's reunification.

Thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was conveyed to the three revolution team members dispatched to Songyo District, Pyongyang Municipality, and to Chonchon County, Chagang Province that greatly contributed to the betterment of the people's living, says the daily.

The paper comes out with an editorial titled "Studying Is a Revolutionary Duty of Officials and Working People" and an article "The Role of County in the Development of Local Industry".

Econews of the paper includes a report about the full-dress construction of the high-pressure pipe shop of the Songjin steel complex.

Given in the paper are accounts of an evening of music for antinuke, antiwar and peace and great national unity and reunification in Korea held, the inaugural ceremony of a cultural and art troupe of the Korean Students Committee to participate in the August 15 grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas and a tour of Pyongyang by the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand march squad for the promotion of national reunification.

The paper informs the readers that the 11th Pyongyang international invitational table tennis tournament closed.

Carried in the paper is an article by its reporter who called at the family of Ya. T. Novichenko, an internationalist soldier, residing in Nobosibirsk region, the USSR.

The U.N. Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution on recommending the DPRK's U.N. membership to the U.N. General Assembly, reports the daily.

South Korean news columns of the paper include reports that some 1,000 students in North and South Kyongsang and Cholla provincial areas held a mountaineering rally for a successful grand reunification festivel of students, the white bone group attacked the marchers of the reunification vanguard, the Federation of the Christian Social Movement vowed to take an active part in the pan-national rally in Seoul and the National Teachers' Union condemned suppression of teachers.

It is reported in the daily that functions were held in Cuba in support of the struggle of South Korean students and the Chinese magazine WORLD OUTLOOK exposed the corruption of South Korean press circles.

Under the title "U.S. Nuclear Weapons Pose Great Threat to Peace and Security in Asia and the Rest of the World" the paper conveys foreign public voices supporting the DPRK Foreign Ministry statement regarding denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Comrade Jiang Zemin stressed the need to develop science and technology and Premier Li Peng inspected northeast China, according to the paper.

An article of the paper comments on a vista for a settlement of the Western Saharan issue.

South Korea

South Asks North for Ministers Meeting at UN

SK1208035091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0338 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea has proposed to North Korea that their foreign ministers meet at the United Nations this September, a government official said Monday. The proposal was relayed in informal counselor-level contacts between the South and North Korean U.N. observer missions, the official said.

North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam is expected to visit New York on Sept. 17-19, and if Pyongyang accepts the proposal, the meeting is likely to take place on Sept. 18, the official said.

The U.N. General Assembly is expected to unanimously accept the two Koreas as members when it convenes Sept. 17. The U.N. Security Council on Aug. 8 adopted a resolution recommending their entry.

If South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok meets with his North Korean counterpart, he will propose that the South and North Korean Embassies to the United Nations open a channel of dialogue, and urge that the two sides halt propaganda attacks on each other and increase cross-border cooperation, the official said.

The foreign ministers might meet at an official dinner hosted by their Japanese and Indonesian counterparts for representatives from the Asia-Pacific region.

"The government is hoping for a South-North Korean foreign ministers' contact separate from the dinner," he said.

Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk is expected to deliver North Korea's keynote speech to the United Nations, and South Korean President No Tae-u will make the keynote address, he said.

Second North Working-Level Contact Held

SK1008062191 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0500 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The North and the South sides today held the second working-level delegates' contact at Tongilgak, the North's area of Panmunjom, to prepare for the fourth round of the North-South high-level talks. They discussed their positions on the talks but could not reach an agreement.

According to this, the North and the South sides have agreed to hold a third working-level contact on 16 August. Thus, they have agreed to continue discussing the issues.

It has been learned that, at today's contact, our side planned to accept North Korea's proposal for adopting a declaration of nonaggression between the North and South and to deal with our proposal for a basic agreement on relations between the North and South, with three negotiations—on traffic, communications, and trade—in a single manner.

Present were Song Hwan-ho, vice minister of the Unification Board, and Yim Tong-won, head of the Institution for the Studies of Diplomacy for National Security, from our side as well as Paek Nam-chun, director of the secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, and Choe U-chin, roving ambassador of the Foreign Ministry, from the North side.

In addition, it has been learned that at today's contact, the delegates discussed the issue of adding a meeting between Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and President Kim Il-song to the schedule of the fourth round of high-level talks.

Government To Raise Level of High-Level Talks

SK1108134191 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1000 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] In order to improve in an epochal way North-South relations during the fourth round of North-South high-level talks slated for 27 August—because it is definite that North and South Korea have become members of the United Nations—the government plans to carry out preliminary work to hold North-South summit talks ahead of schedule.

A high-level government source revealed that since an international atmosphere has been created to improve North-South relations, and since North and South Korea have joined the United Nations, the government plans to upgrade the high-level talks to a level just below summit talks, so that all pending North-South issues can be dealt with responsibly. Therefore, the government plans to emphasize preparations for holding North-South summit talks ahead of schedule.

In preparation for the summit talks, this source said that the government plans to accept North Korea's nonaggression declaration so that the basic agreement in North-South relations and the three communications agreement can be dealt with collectively. It also revealed that the government plans to accept North Korea's nuclear issue proposal during the upcoming high-level talks so that the two sides can reach agreement.

This source said that in order for the heads of state of North and South Korea to convey their opinions to the summit, the government plans to make it a custom to allow the delegation heads of the North-South high-level talks to hold meetings with the other side's head of state.

In addition, in order to help North Korea become a responsible member of the international community since its entry into the United Nations, the government plans to discuss during the North-South high-level talks the issue of North and South Korea's participating together in the international arena.

North Plans To Establish Trade Office in Japan

SK1108025791 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 11 Aug 91 p1

[Text] North Korea has decided to establish a rather large-scale trade office in Tokyo, Japan, on 24 August in order to expand its foreign trade business. According to this, it has been predicted that the trade and investment business between the North and the South would be more active in the future.

According to a relevant authority, on 10 August, it was learned that North Korea had recently leased a five-story building, located in the center of Tokyo, and will station a large number of officials there permanently to take charge of business, such as trade, tourism, shipping operations, finance, and cultural exchanges.

It can be deduced that North Korea is planning to expand economic and cultural exchanges in advance of normalizing diplomatic relations between itself and Japan. In addition, it can be said that North Korea's plan is to secure a strong point for its role of expanding economic cooperation with capitalist countries.

In accordance with the establishment of North Korea's trade office in Tokyo, a cosmopolitan city, it is expected that our enterprises' business talks on incoming and outgoing goods between the North and the South will be further promoted, making Tokyo their center for business.

In particular, the domestic enterprises authorized by the government to deal with North Korea are likely to have more opportunity to directly contact North Korea's trade office. Therefore, it will be possible for South Korea to change the form of its trade with North Korea into direct trade in the future. In addition, it seems that our enterprises are likely to positively discuss the issue of advancing into North Korea by means of joint investment.

Until now, our businessmen have had to visit Beijing, the PRC, Hong Kong, and other areas to hold the business talks with North Korea on exchanges of goods. Therefore, it is expected that the establishment of North Korea's trade office in Tokyo will be a good opportunity for domestic enterprises to largely reduce their economic burden and save time.

A government official said: It seems that North Korea will establish its trade office with the external function of conducting civilian enterprise while carrying out government operations. Therefore, it will be relatively easy for our enterprises to contact North Korea without depending on a third country as middleman. Taking advantage of this, it is expected that the business talks on trade and joint investment between North Korea and South Korea will be further promoted.

It has been learned that this office will be similar in form to a Tokyo office of the Kumgangsan International Trade and Development Cooperation, with (Pak Kyong-yun) as president. This firm was a signatory of the contract for the North when we sent 5,000 tons of rice to North Korea last time in the form of direct trade.

Officials View Kim Chong-il Visit to PRC

SK1008054691 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 10 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] It was learned that Kim Chong-il's official visit to China and the finishing touches to the plan for his succession to power as general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] in the 1992 seventh WPK congress has been set back due to China's lukewarm attitude.

On 9 August a government source said: "China and North Korea agreed in principle early this year to realize Kim Chong-il's official visit to China ahead of schedule. However, China is delaying the date under the excuse that there are different opinions on the visit's procedure, such as the level of the official visit and its form. This means that the Chinese side does not have confidence in North Korea's future after Kim Chong-il takes power."

Since early April, rumors of Kim Chong-il's official visit to China have been steadily heard from diplomatic circles, but his visit has not been realized yet.

Another source said: "China had originally planned to allow Kim Chong-il's official visit to China as a compensation for accepting simultaneous Korean entry into the United Nations. However, after taking into account the recently changed international situation, China began to realize that the future of Kim Chong-il's succession is ambiguous. As a result, the Chinese side is assuming a reserved attitude because if it allows Kim Chong-il to officially visit China, it will be recognizing his succession to power."

Second Student Plans To Enter North Via China

SK1008070291 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0630 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] It has been learned that Song Yong-song, a student at Konguk University, who was dispatched to Berlin as representative of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] will also enter North Korea today.

Ki Tong-min, spokesman for Chondaehyop, said today that student Song is now in Beijing and will leave for Pyongyang by North Korea's civil airline on the afternoon of 10 August.

Chondaehyop says that student Song, along with student Pak Song-hui, is expected to participate in the grand country-cross march which has been taking place in North Korea.

Student Reporters Plan To Meet North 12 Aug

SK1208001191 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] In response to the proposal presented by the North Korean Student Committee for holding a working-level contact to discuss the issue of covering news in the North, the student press union of papers published in Seoul district universities has proposed to the North to hold the working-level talks at 1500 [0600 GMT] on 12 August at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Committee [NNSC] in Panmunjom.

Kim Ki-hyon, editor-in-chief of the Songgyungwan University paper and head of the press group for covering news in the North, under the student press union of papers published in Seoul district universities, held a news conference. He said that he, including three delegates from the press group for covering news in North Korea, will come to Panmunjom at 1500 on 12 August to hold the working-level talks with the delegates from the North Korean Student Committee.

At today's working-level talks, Kim Ki-hyon will ask that the North side send the press group an invitation and a memorandum that will guarantee its personal security. In addition, he asked for our government to allow the talks.

In connection with the student press groups for covering news in North Korea, the Korean Student Committee had sent a message to the South on 10 August and proposed holding preliminary talks at 1000 [0100 GMT] on 12 August at the NNSC conference room in Panmunjom.

Students Plan Banned Rally

SK1208011491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0059 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (OANA-YONHAP)—Clashes with the riot police are expected in the South Korean capital Monday [12 August] as thousands of activist students and dissidents try to hold a banned rally.

Policemen have been posted around some universities here as the organizing committee says it will go ahead with an opening ceremony for the week-long pan-Korean event at Kyonghui University from 7 P.M.

The police say 72 companies of 8,000 police officers will be mobilized to prevent the rally from taking place and to beef up security for U.S. facilities and other foreign missions.

Universities in Seoul were to hold their own ceremonies in the afternoon and then gather at Kyonghui, and 1,000 people were scheduled to join the rally at midnight, completing an eight-day cross-country march from Mokpo and Chinju in the south.

Hundreds of students were inside Kyonghui on Sunday night preparing for the rally as police ringed the campus.

The organizing committee and the radical group Chondaehyop (the National Student Representatives' Council) planned the event to commemorate the 46th anniversary of Korea's liberation from 35 years of Japanese colonial rule. It was also when Korea was divided into capitalist and communist halves.

The government banned the rally, saying it could be abused for North Korean propaganda and the government should be the only channel of inter-Korean dialogue and exchange. The government proposed its own celebration for Liberation Day, but North Korea turned it down.

Student Reporters Barred From Meeting North

SK1208053991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0522 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea will not permit representatives of college newspapers to meet Monday with their North Korean counterparts at the truce village of Panmunjom, a senior official on the National Unification Board said Monday.

The government decided to bar members of the Association of Campus Newspapers in Seoul (Sodaeginyon) because the North had arranged the meeting for propaganda purposes, he said.

On Saturday, Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of Pyongyang's Korean Students Committee, proposed holding working-level talks on a plan by Sodaeginyon to send reporters to North Korea between Aug. 10 and 20.

The government approved the trip July 19.

If the invitations and safety guarantees were given from North Korea, no further talks were necessary for Sodaeginyon to send reporters to the North.

But Pyongyang has arbitrarily limited their coverage to a pan-Korean rally and an inter-Korean festival for unification, he said.

The timing of the talks with the arrival in Pyongyang of two students representing Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives], South Korea's largest activist student group, was obviously a North Korean attempt to drum up a propaganda advantage, he said.

Song Yong-sung of Konkuk University in Seoul arrived in Pyongyang on Saturday without government approval, and Pak Song-hui of Kyonghui University arrived on Aug. 5.

Government Changes Stance on Student Contact

SK1208075491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0744 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—The government, in a surprise turnaround from earlier expectations, on Monday gave permission for a meeting of South and North Korean college journalists at the truce village of Panmunjom later that day.

It said three members of Sodaeginyon (the Association of Campus Newspaper Journalists in Seoul) and one liaison officer from the National Unification Board would meet with the North Koreans to discuss Sodaeginyon's plan to send student reporters to the North.

On Saturday, Choe Hyon-tok, chairman of Pyongyang's Korean Students Committee, proposed the Panmunjom contact.

A senior official of the National Unification Board said the government would decide whether it would allow Sodaeginyon to send reporters to North Korea based on the results of Monday's Panmunjom meeting.

Meanwhile, a government official said earlier Monday that the government was determined to bar the Panmunjom meeting in view of its "propaganda purposes" serving North Korea's interest.

Red Cross Urges Talks on Separated Families

SK1208035791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0342 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean National Red Cross (KNRC) on Monday urged North Korea for an immediate resumption of inter-Korean talks for reunion of some 10 million separated families.

"It is encouraging that South and North Korea are holding prime ministers' talks and sending joint sports teams to international competitions," said a statement by Kang Yong-hun, KNRC president.

"Under these favorable conditions, the Red Cross must not hesitate any longer on reuniting separated families to fulfill its humanitarian responsibilities and contribute to national reunification," Kang said.

The statement was released on the 20th anniversary of Aug. 12, 1971, proposal by the South Korean Red Cross for direct talks with its North Korean counterpart on arranging family reunions.

There are some 10 million separate families between the two Koreas from the fratricidal Korean war (1950-1953). Red Cross officials from Seoul and Pyongyang met 10 times since then, the last meeting held in December 1985 in Seoul.

The 11th meeting was originally scheduled in Pyongyang in February 1986 but was broken off by the North Korean side who said it is refusing all inter-Korean talks unless Seoul cancel the South Korea-U.S. joint military maneurver "Team Spirit."

"We propose that we open the 11th Red Cross meeting as soon as possible in Pyongyang as planned," Kang said in the statement.

Police Injure Student in 'Reunification March'

SK1008022491 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Aug 91 p 3

[Text] A 27-year-old student of Kyongbuk National University in Taegu was hit on the head by a group of club-wielding plain-clothes riot policemen during their clash in a demonstration in front of the school Thursday afternoon.

Hong Chang-hun, a law school junior, was immediately taken to the university hospital. Doctors said he underwent an operation and is not in critical condition.

Hong was among about 1,000 students who advanced out of the school campus after a rally celebrating the start of the inter-Korea "reunification march."

Assemblymen To Meet Diet Members, Discuss North

SK1008080691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0650 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—The South Korean National Assembly will ask the Japanese Diet to help facilitate inter-Korean dialogue and exchange in a meeting of the bilateral Parliamentarians Union in Seoul on Monday, Rep. Pak Tae-chun, the Korean-side chairman, said Saturday.

Pak, a co-chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, said it would also be an occasion to confirm inter-parliamentary cooperation on the five conditions South Korea has set for the normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea.

"I demanded during my Tokyo visit July 30-Aug. 4 that Japan observe the five conditions our government has put forward. In the upcoming meeting, we will make efforts to jointly confirm cooperation in meeting these conditions," he said.

The five conditions say significant progress in inter-Korean dialogue and exchange should precede normalization of Tokyo-Pyongyang ties, and Japan should not provide compensation or economic cooperation to North Korea before normalization.

South Korea demands Tokyo hold close consultations with Seoul and Washington in the course of improving its ties with North Korea, and asks that it urge North Korea to sign an International Atomic Energy Agency nuclear safeguards accord, open its doors to the international community and participate in its activities.

An official of the South Korea-Japan Parliamentarians Union said cooperation between the National Assembly and Diet was particularly important because Japan had a cabinet system of government.

He said Korean and Japanese lawmakers had agreed in principle to issue a joint declaration pledging cooperation on enforcement of the five conditions at the end of their meeting.

Firms Seek To Dredge River for N. Economic Zone

SK1008072491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0647 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 10 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean businesses are seeking ways to participate in the Tuman River dredging project, which will enable seagoing vessels to reach a special economic zone to be built in North Korea, industry sources said Saturday.

Top conglomerates such as Hyundai, Daewoo, Samsung and Dong-ah hope to join the project, which involves removing sand from the estuary so the channel is deep enough for large ships.

It will require a massive long-term investment and cooperation among North Korea, China and the Soviet Union as the river borders all three nations, according to the sources.

North Korea is mapping out special economic zones in Unggi, Saebyol and Najin, all adjacent to the river, and South Korean firms are thinking positively about participating in the project, the sources said.

Chong Chu-yong, founder of the Hyundai group, discussed the project in detail with Chinese officials last month, a company official said.

China agrees the first step is to create access to the sea to develop Hunchun into a special economic zone and has asked about the possibility of South Korean participation in the dredging, he said.

Considering the time and money involved, South Korean firms may join forces to enter the project, the official said.

Seoul Allows Church To Contact North Pastor

SK1208061191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0526 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea's National Unification Board approved an application last week by the conservative-reform Presbyterian Church of Korea to contact a North Korean pastor.

O Kyon-yol, chairman of the church's board, hopes to contact the Rev. Ko Ki-chun of the Korean Christians Federation to invite him and clergymen recommended by him to attend the church's annual general meeting Sept. 3.

Kim Tae-chung To Attend No Tae-u's UN Address

SK1108022891 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Aug 91 p 1

[Text] Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung was learned to have decided to go to the United Nations on the occasion of President No Tae-u's visit to make an address to the UN, his aides said yesterday.

He will, however, trip to [as published] Germany and Poland prior to his visit to the United States and join No only in New York in a bid to show that he is not accompanying him.

Kim's chief secretary, Rep. Cho Sung-hyong, said that opinion polls showed that the majority of people favored his visit to New York on the occasion of both South and North Korea being admitted to the international organization.

"Over 60 percent of people, surveyed by our party, have supported his trip to the UN," Cho said.

Kim president of the New Democratic Party, who boasted that he invented the idea for simultaneous entry to the world body by two different Korea in 1972, has pondered on the political gain and loss of his visit when he was requested by No to accompany him.

Seoul To Participate in UN Committee Meeting

SK1008035891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0035 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea will take part in the third preparatory committee meeting of the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Geneva Aug. 12-Sept. 4, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

Ambassador to Geneva Pak Su-kil will head the Korean delegation.

At the meeting, 20,000 people will discuss 21 environmental issues in three working-level groups, but the main topics will be ozone layer protection, nuclear waste and preservation of marine life, ministry officials said.

Effective transfer of technology on environmental protection from advanced to less-developed countries will also be covered.

The meeting is in preparation for the UNCED opening session in Rio de Janeiro in July 1992. Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek asked South Korea to participate during his visit to Korea this week, the officials said.

Denuclearization Discussion With North Possible

SK1008063791 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 9 Aug 91 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 8 August that during the 5 August working-level delegates' contact for the fourth round of North-South high-level talks, the government conveyed its willingness in the future to "carry out negotiations" between North and South authorities regarding the North Korean side's proposal to establish a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula, as long as the North side does not link the issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula and nuclear weapons possessed by the U.S. forces stationed in South Korea and completely accepts international nuclear inspection.

This kind of viewpoint by the government suggests that the government is changing its existing policy due to the recent changes in the security situation on the Korean peninsula. In the past, the government had said that North Korea's claim that U.S. nuclear weapons stationed in South Korea must be withdrawn and that a nuclear-free zone must be established on the Korean peninsula "are not subject to negotiation." It is noteworthy that discussions were made on the possibility of holding negotiations for the first time on the "nuclear issue" during the North-South official contact.

Moscow To Discuss Cooperation at UN in Sep

SK1108093891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—Foreign ministers of South Korea and the Soviet Union will discuss signing a treaty on good neighborliness and cooperation when they meet at the United Nations in New York next month, Korean Government sources said Sunday.

The sources said Ministers Yi Sang-ok of Korea and Aleksandr Bessmertnykh of the Soviet Union would exchange their governments' positions on the pact, proposed by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during his third summit talks with Korean President No Tae-u in April.

South Korea hopes the treaty will cherish the spirit of the Moscow declaration, signed in Moscow in December last year at the end of the second summit between No and Gorbachev, while excluding military and security topics, the sources said.

The declaration, whose proper title is "A Joint Declaration on General Principles of Relations," is believed to have virtually eliminated the threat of another Korean war by stating mutual agreement opposing use of force as a means of resolving disputes in the region, but does not call for mutual cooperation in military sector.

Soviet officials have emphasized on many occasions that the proposed pact would not affect the two countries' existing alliances with other countries.

Korea was divided into the capitalist South and communist North at the end of World War II in 1945, and the two sides fought a three-year war from 1950 until an armistice agreement was signed.

South Korea and the Soviet Union normalized diplomatic relations on Sept. 30, 1990, after decades of hostility. The Soviet Union has been a strong ally of North Korea and the two countries are still bonded by the 1961 treaty of friendship and mutual assistance.

South Korea's security system is largely dependent on the United States under a 1953 mutual defense treaty. There are some 43,000 American troops in South Korea.

During their New York meeting, Yi and Bessmertnykh are expected to ponder on joint steps to stop North Korea's development of nuclear weapons, the sources said.

Yi is most likely to ask Bessmertnykh to render support in persuading North Korea to accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's inspection of its nuclear facilities at an early date. North Korea is said to be only a couple of years away from developing an atomic bomb of its own.

Yi is to accompany No on his U.N. trip, that would mark South and North Koreas' admission into the world body. On the Soviet side, the foreign minister is likely to make a key-note address to the U.N. General Assembly on behalf of Gorbachev, the sources said.

Soviet Government Sends Loan Payment Guarantee

SK1008020691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Aug 91 p 6

[Text] The Soviet government sent a letter of payment guarantee for $800 million to the Export-Import Bank [Eximbank] of Korea Wednesday, the state-run bank said yesterday.

The payment guarantee followed the contract for economic cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union in which the Eximbank will extend $800 million in relending facilities to the Bank for Foreign Economic

Affairs of the USSR to facilitate Soviet imports of Korean-made consumer products.

If the USSR bank refuses to repay the Eximbank's relending facilities, the Eximbank can request the Soviet government directly for repayment based on the letter of payment guarantee.

So far, domestic enterprises have signed a total of $300 million worth of export contracts with Soviet counterparts, but the real shipments of goods to the socialist country could not be made because of the absence of the payment guarantee.

With the arrival of the letter, Korea's exports of consumer goods to the Soviet Union are expected to gain further momentum in the months ahead, an Eximbank official said.

USSR To Hold Talks on Opening Consulates

SK1008002891 Seoul YONHAP in English 2344 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 10 (YONHAP) - South Korean and Soviet officials will meet in Moscow early next week for talks on the conclusion of a consular pact to clear the way for the establishment of consulates in the other country, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday [10 August].

The two sides will discuss consular relations in general on the basis of the 1964 Vienna convention on consular relations at the talks Aug. 12-14, the Ministry said.

South Korea and the Soviet Union established dilomatic ties Sept. 30, 1990.

Korea will be represented in the meeting by Ham Myong-chol, a deputy director-general for treaties, while Nikolai Makarov, deputy director general for Foreign Ministry's consular and legal affairs will head the Soviet team.

Korea plans to set up consulates in Khabarovsk, Leningrad and Alma Ata early next year and the Soviet Union hopes to create one in the southeastern port of Pusan.

Seoul, China To Hold Trade Talks Late Aug

SK1108073291 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 10 Aug 91 p 2

[KYODO, YONHAP report from Beijing]

[Text] On 8 August, an official of the ROK trade mission to Beijing revealed that talks to conclude some agreements by late this year, such as to promote trade and investment, will start in late August.

On 8 August, Pak Chan-hyok, director of the ROK trade mission to Beijing, told Japan's KYODO News Agency that the ROK and China both agree that there is a need to have an agreement to promote trade and investment, even before official diplomatic relations between the two countries are achieved.

Director Pak said that it is forecast that this year's trade volume between the ROK and China will be $4.5 billion, which is an increase of 20 percent compared with last year in which the trade volume was $3.3 billion. He also said that it seems that trade will be weakened next year, because China is imposing heavy tariffs on ROK products. This is because no trade agreement has been concluded between the two countries.

Tokyo, Seoul Lawmakers Agree on DPRK Approach

OW1208114091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 KYODO—Tokyo and Seoul lawmakers agreed Monday both sides should keep in mind the principles suggested by South Korean President No Tae-u in seeking improved relations with North Korea.

The legislators agreed to work together in urging North Korea to comply with international nuclear inspection standards in order to alleviate military and political tensions in northeast Asia.

Tokyo will resume normalization talks with Pyongyang in late August in Beijing, while almost at the same time Seoul looks ahead to a fourth round of inter-Korean prime ministers talks in Pyongyang.

In a joint statement, the legislators further agreed to improve South Korea's trade deficit with Tokyo, to boost technological cooperation, and to promote friendship among local governing bodies.

Also, the two sides called for further study in establishing an international fisheries resource management center in order to better manage Japan-South Korea fishing resources.

Forty-two members of the Japan-South Korea Parliamentarians League, headed by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, met with 100 members of the South Korea-Japan Parliamentarians Union.

Takeshita earlier met with the union president, Pak Tae-chun, and the coleader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, Kim Yong-sam, and reassured them "the Japan-North Korea normalization talks will not interfere with inter-Korean dialogue."

Japan-North Ties To Be Discussed in Tokyo

SK1008041491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0303 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 10 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha will go to Japan late in August to discuss Tokyo-Pyongyang relations with his Japanese counterpart Hisashi Owada prior to the fourth round of North Korea-Japan talks on diplomatic normalization, a Foreign Ministry official said Saturday.

Yu's visit Aug. 26-29 is part of an exchange program between vice ministers of the two nations. The last exchange was in 1989.

"The Japanese Government requested that the South Korean vice foreign minister schedule his visit at the specified date," the official said.

"The vice minister will also meet with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama during the four-day visit and discuss developments in Tokyo's relations with Pyongyang," he said.

North Korea and Japan are scheduled to hold their fourth round of diplomatic normalization negotiations Aug. 30-31 in Beijing.

"Yu's visit is informal and part of a regular exchange program that has been neglected for a while. But given current developments on the Korean peninsula, and the timing of his visit, overall discussions on regional issues and Tokyo-Pyongyang ties are expected," the official said.

Japanese Parliamentarians Pledge Cooperation

SK1208102491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0928 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—Parliamentarians from South Korea and Japan pledged to cooperate in changing the political climate in the international arena and in resolving bilateral issues in a meeting here Monday afternoon.

In a joint statement adopted at the end of the 19th meeting of the Korea-Japan Parliamentarians' Union, the lawmakers promised to make concerted endeavors to build an environment conducive to reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Members of the Japanese Diet told their South Korean opposite numbers they would be cautious in contacting North Korea, remembering Seoul's position that better inter-Korean relations should precede normalization of ties between Tokyo and Pyongyang.

In a congratulatory address, Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik said the neighbor nations were developing "a closer, more cooperative and future-oriented relationship these days than ever before."

Describing Korea and Japan "as indispensable partners who will open the Asia-Pacific era of peace and prosperity," Chong said they should strengthen friendship and cooperation in all aspects.

The two sides agreed to expand bilateral trade in a balanced way to redress the soaring imbalance in favor of Japan, to help give their peoples a correct knowledge of historical facts involving the two countries, and to seek ways to duly compensate Korean atomic bomb victims and repatriate Koreans on the Soviet island of Sakhalin.

Japan ruled Korea from 1910 until the end of World War II and took millions of Koreans to Japan, Sakhalin and Southeast Asia as slave labor and to help in the war.

During the one-day meeting, the Korean lawmakers proposed establishment of "an international fisheries resources management center," and the Diet members said they would positively consider the proposal for the effective management and protection of marine resources and development of fisheries technology.

Earlier in the day, Noboru Takeshita, Japanese-side chairman of the Parliamentarians' Union, met with Rep. Pak Tae-chun, a co-chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and Korean-side chairman of the union.

DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, DLP Co-chairman Kim Chong-pil and National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu were also present.

In meetings with Korean politicians, Takeshita affirmed Tokyo's position that improvement of its ties with Pyongyang should not hinder progress of inter-Korean dialogue.

Japan's Takeshita, Diet Group Arrive

OW1108130591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1228 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 KYODO—Forty-two members of the Diet arrived in Seoul from Tokyo on Sunday for talks with South Korean Parliament members.

Former prime minister Noboru Takeshita heads the delegation from the Japanese Diet Members' League for Friendship with South Korea.

Takeshita and his group will hold a joint meeting in Seoul on Monday with South Korean legislators.

The Japanese delegation will meet President No Tae-u on Tuesday before returning home later in the day.

No Meets With Libyan Water Project Official

SK1208055191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0520 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u met with Muhammad Ahmad al-Manqush, secretary of Libya's great man-made river project authority, on Monday.

Al-Manqush expressed his hopes to invite No to Libya for a water channeling ceremony on Aug. 27, when he paid a call on the president, according to Dong-ah Construction Industrial Co.

Dong-ah has worked on the project since 1981.

Government To Participate in GATT Revision

SK1108020591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Aug 91 p 8

[Text] The nation's government procurement market in all probability will be open to foreigners across the board in 1993 as the government has decided to join the negotiations on that trade issue initiated by the United States and the European Community.

The United States and the EC have been seeking a wider opening of government procurement markets of GATT member countries through revision of the Government Procurement Code to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

At present, 20 countries are working out a code revision for completion by the end of this year.

The projected revision draft extends the scope of procurements by agencies to provincial governments, state-invested and funded organizations as well as central government procurements.

Commodities subject to the code will also include transportation, telecommunications, tapped water sector and construction which are excluded under the existing code.

Consequently, heavy and chemical manufacturers and small-and medium-sized firms, which heavily depend on government procurements, are likely to be hard hit.

Officials of the Trade-Industry Ministry said yesterday that the government is determined to actively participate in the multilateral negotiations on the revision of the code at the Uruguay Round.

The final decision will be made at a meeting of the external policy coordination committee to be chaired by Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu later this month. The basic directive was set at a working-level committee meeting on Uruguay Round negotiations recently.

An official said it is better for the government to positively participate in the negotiations to reflect its position at the multilateral talks.

In June last year, the government submitted its offer list covering 35 central government agencies, Korea Telecom and the Korea Highway Corp. to GATT upon joining the exiting code.

But the projected revision draft of the code encompasses provincial governments, 25 state-invested corporations including the Korea Electric Power Cor. and 30-odd state-funded organizations.

In this connection, the ministry official said, "The nation's government procurement market is expected to increase to $800 million to $1 billion from $570 million in case we became a signitary to the existing code."

In particular, heavy electrical machinery, electric and electronic machinery and industrial machinery vulnerable to foreign competition and small-and medium-sized firms are expected to be hit hard, he said.

The government plants to actively negotiate with the United States and the EC to reduce probable damages to domestic firms in case of opening the closed market.

But the leader nations intend to insert clauses, based on which bidding losers are entitled to lodge objections with the pertinent government, in the revision code draft. This means that the negotiations aim at a fully opening of procurement markets of member countries, he added.

No Tae-u Urges Democratic Liberal Party Unity

SK1108025991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u yesterday asked the fractious ruling party's three chairmen—Kim Yong-sam, Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun—to strive for party unity, a presidential spokesman said.

Meeting the chairman over lunch at Chongwadae, No emphasized that the party should never again be embroiled in internal disputes like the recent one over when and how to pick its next presidential candidate.

The unscheduled meeting followed No's private talks with Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam Friday, which produced an agreement that debate on the candidate issue and future political timetables should be shelved until after the end of this year.

The presidential election is expected to be held in December in 1992.

The three chairmen were quoted as telling the President that they will fully respect his position and endeavor to restore party unity and harmony.

No's meeting with the three top party officials helped fully resolve the recent factional feuding in the party, said Son Chu-hwan, senior presidential secretary for political affairs.

Kim Yong-sam and his opponents have recently feuded over when the party should hold a party convention to pick its presidential nominee.

Son said No and the chairmen also discussed the coming admission of Seoul into the United Nations and ways to tackle various difficulties facing the nation.

No was quoted as saying that in his coming speech before the U.N. General Assembly, he will present an idea for securing peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

No's U.N. speech is scheduled for Sept. 24, a week after the General Assembly approves Seoul's entry into the world organization.

"I will also disclose my views on what our country can do to further the welfare and prosperity of the entire world," No was quoted as saying.

The executive chairman will accompany No to the United Nations.

Government Announces Planned 1992 Budget

SK1208025691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0120 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—The government will propose a budget of 33.4 trillion won for 1992, up 24 percent from 1991, the Economic Planning Board [EPB] said Monday.

Rising demand in the infrastructure and environment sectors necessitated increased spending, it said.

More money was also needed to cover pay hikes for civil servants of 12.5 percent, 9 percent in basic pay and the rest in allowances, he said.

Drafting will be completed before Aug. 23, when the budget is to be sent to President No Tae-u for approval, he said.

Heated wrangling is expected between the EPB and Defense Ministry over the defense budget as the Ministry argues that it should be increased a minimum 24.7 percent to cover modernization and better treatment of non-commissioned officers.

The EPB will note that the defense budget grew 12.3 percent this year and contend any increase should be below that level as military tension is declining throughout the world.

Defense spending usually hovers around 4 percent of the gross national product, but dropped to 3.91 percent this year.

Service Industry Accounts for Highest Output

SK1208072591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—The service sector leads industry in both output and employment in South Korea, the Korea Development Bank (KDB) reported Monday.

Service companies accounted for 40 percent of output value at the end of 1990, up from 35 percent in 1979, and employed 46.6 percent of the work force, up from 41.2 percent in 1983, KDB said. Employment in the mining and manufacturing sector peaked at 28.5 percent in 1988 and declined to 27.3 percent in 1990.

The number of recruits and retirements amounted to 4.61 percent of the service work force, far stabler than the 7.1 percent for the manufacturing sector.

Service employees worked 200.1 hours a month last year, compared with 216.2 hours for manufacturing workers, but pay was 1.35 times higher.

The service sector took 12.3 percent of business spending last year, up from 11.9 percent in 1985, labor took 14.4 percent, up from 12.1 percent, and materials 55.6 percent, down from 62.3 percent.

KDB said it expected the service sector to continue in the top spot as Korea's structure changed to that of an industrialized nation and pressure increased for service market liberalization.

Civil Servants Under Investigation on Corruption

SK1208025491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—A government watchdog agency has turned over the names of 10 civil servants who illegally won apartments in new towns near Seoul in a lottery to their respective ministries, the prime minister's office said Monday.

The special inspection team for public administration affairs of the prime minister's office examined the records of 167 illegal winners of the lottery exposed by the Construction Ministry on July 23 and found that the 10, including a section-chief level official at the Science and Technology Ministry, were among them.

The inspection team will inform a meeting Tuesday of inspectors from government ministries and agencies of the "heavy" disciplinary measures to be taken against seven officials, who were found speculated in real estate. The others are still under investigation.

First-Half Foreign Currency Loan Statistics

SK1208025391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0126 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—A rise in foreign currency lending to corporate borrowers by South Korean banks has boosted imports, necessitating adjustment of credit limits and interest rates, government authorities said Monday.

Korean banks issued 1.68 billion U.S. dollars in loans denominated in foreign currencies to their corporate customers in the first half of the year, up 38.8 percent from a year ago, and had 17.98 billion dollars in outstanding foreign-currency loans on their books at the end of June.

The loans, which have low interest rates, were used to pay 80 percent of their import bills by large companies and 100 percent by small-and medium-sized firms in the manufacturing sector, and 60 percent and 80 percent, respectively, in the non-manufacturing sector, government sources said.

Interest rates range between 7.5 percent and 8 percent per annum and the banks are free to set a rate up to 25 percent and a grace period of up to 10 years.

Foreign-currency loans are also used to repay the principal on foreign debt and for overseas investments. This accounts for 20 percent of the lending.

Ministry Eases Restrictions at Military Airports

SK1008040091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 10 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry said Saturday window shades on airliners may now remain open during takeoff or landing at military airports.

The Ministry decided that passengers can see only such things as runways and hangars, which have no security value, so the blinds could stay up.

Civilian flights curently use military airfields in Taegu, Kwangju, Kimhae and Kangnung.

The measure is being taken against the backdrop of the cold war era fading into history and East and West embarking on a voyage of cooperation and mutual prosperity.

Cambodia

CANBERRA TIMES Interviews Hor Namhong

BK1208124791 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1114 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 12 Aug (SPK)—On 6 August Foreign Minister Hor Namhong granted an interview to Jeremy Thompson, correspondent for the CANBERRA TIMES.

Following are the questions and answers:

[Thompson] Do China and Vietnam want to solve the Cambodian problem within the framework of the Supreme National Council (SNC)?

[Hor Namhong] We welcome the amelioration of SRV-China relations because the two countries are directly involved in the Cambodian problem. So, the improvement of relations between those two countries will accelerate the settlement of the problem. I do not believe that China and Vietnam will try to solve the Cambodian problem ouside of the SNC framework, because the Cambodian problem must be settled by the Cambodians themselves. Both the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and the UN representatives share the same view.

[Thompson] The forthcoming meeting of the SNC in Bangkok will raise the problems of disarmament and Armed Forces dissolution. What is the State of Cambodia's position on these issues?

[Hor Namhong] We agree to the storing of arms and the cantonment of troops in places under UN supervision. Those who are responsible for such places must report the numbers of arms and troops to the United Nations Transitional Autority in Cambodia. This will facilitate the holding of general elections with mutual confidence. If the two parties agree to compromise at the forthcoming SNC meeting in Bangkok, we could make even further progress in the settlement of the issue.

[Thompson] How do you explain the great concession made by the State of Cambodia to allow the Khmer Rouge to have its headquarters in Phnom Penh?

[Hor Namhong] Well, we face two options: Either to let the war go on disregarding national development or to peacefully solve it. However, any political settlement must guarantee the non-return to power of the genocidal regime. We believe that the people will show their hate for what they condemned in the past through their votes. Surely, there will be problems with the Khmer Rouge when they are in Phnom Penh, but as the host, our government will ensure security for them.

[Thompson] What are the results of the breakthrough to the deadlock at the SNC meeting in Beijing?

[Hor Namhong] 1. In Phatthaya, we were invited by Prince Sihanouk as his guests, and in Beijing, China received us as an equal partner with the other side.

2. We had talks in Beijing within the framework of the SNC. We also conferred with the Chinese leaders, including the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the deputy foreign minister in charge of Cambodian affairs, during our private sojourn there. During the talks, we were able to make an important point: China declared its respect for the sovereignty of Cambodia by agreeing to the settlement of the Cambodian problem by the Cambodians themselves and we are optimistic about the future relations between the two countries.

[Thompson] Did China change its position because of the U.S. threat to withdraw China's most-favored-nation trade status?

[Hor Namhong] China is an independent country. It knows well the Cambodian problem. It knows about the battlefield situation and the concessions made by the State of Cambodia in accepting Prince Sihanouk as the SNC chairman. China also knows that the Khmer Rouge constitute the principal obstacle to the relations between the two countries.

[Thompson] Your Excellency, do you believe that the Khmer Rouge will commit themselves to what the people decide?

[Hor Namhong] In my opinion, whatever the results of the general election may be, the Khmer Rouge will continue to fight us. Therefore, we cannot accept the demobilization of our Armed Forces. After the election, the world public will see who will continue to use arms. But although the Khmer Rouge may continue their attacks, the fighting will not be on a large scale and will consequently subside.

[Thompson] Your Excellency, what do you think about the presence of a UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia to prevent violations by the Khmer Rouge?

[Hor Namhong] It is up to the new government to decide who it should ask for help and what the military composition of the UN force should be. If the Khmer Rouge opposes the new government, they should not obstruct the development process in the country. The new government will take measures to curb those activities.

[Thompson] What would you say about the relations between the State of Cambodia and Australia since Mr. Bill Hayden made his initiative?

[Hor Namhong] For such relations, we think that Australia has made a great contribution to the resolution of the Cambodian problem. The UN framework document was also based on the peace plan initiated by Mr. Gareth Evans. Through the discussions, we share a common view that any political settlement of the problem should ensure the non-return of the Khmer Rouge. On behalf of the government, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for this valuable contribution.

Changes in Party Central Committee Announced

BK1108062391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Aug 91

["Communique on the result of the working session of the 13th plenum of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party's Fifth Central Committee"]

[Text] The 13th plenum of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party's fifth Central Committee, which was held from 8 to 11 August 1991 under the chairmanship of Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee, achieved the following results:

1. The session unanimously agreed on the assessment of the Cambodian situation in the years 1986-91. The past more than five years of the implementation of the tasks to defend and build the country, set by the party's fifth congress, was a period of historic significance for our nation which links great events in and outside the country. This was a most complicated test.

However, due to the correct leadership of the party, particularly due to the party's appropriate reforms on major leadership principles at the second national conference of cadres which responds to the people's aspiration—particularly the implementation of a liberalized socioeconomic policy, foreign affairs, the granting of rights and freedom on belief, religion, traditions, and customs, and the granting of property rights on production means, and so on—our nation's forces have constantly developed ensuring all tasks and achieving major tasks, most importantly firmly preserving social and national gains, preventing the resurgence of the danger from the past, and achieving a number of socioeconomic results although some remaining difficulties are to be overcome.

2. From past experiences of the Cambodian revolution, the plenum unanimously agreed on the direction of the common tasks to be carried out in the following years. It has set forth the common tasks of the party, state, and Cambodian people in the current phase, namely the gathering and building of forces in all sectors within a great national united front, the implementation of national reconciliation policy, and the restoration and building of the country and nation, aimed at building a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia with friendly relations with neighboring countries and all countries the world over.

To implement tasks along this common direction, the plenum set out concrete tasks appropriate to each sector. These have been improved and are appropriate to the new situation. Among this, the State of Cambodia's party and state will strive to advance the process toward quickly achieving a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem in order to bring about long-lasting peace and ensuring the vital interests of the country, nation, and people, without the threat of the danger from the past.

In the national economy sector, the plenum set forth the direction to speed up the implementation of the party's liberalization policy, particularly in production and other fields, by creating conditions for all economic potentials to be exploited equally and legally in order to contribute to expanding production, gradually build an economic basis for production of goods, and move toward implementing a free market economy regime.

3. The plenum decided to expel Comrade Ho Non from the party Central Committee membership due to inappropriateness on many issues, particularly pilfering for personal benefit. The plenum decided to make Comrade Er Sam-an, editor of the SPK news agency, a full member of the party Central Committee; and agreed to Comrade Men Sam-an's request, for health reason, to relinquish the membership in the party Central Committee's secretariat and to keep only the membership in the party Central Committee Political Bureau. The plenum voted to appoint Comrade Lieutenant General Ke Kimyan, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy defense minister, as member of the party Central Committee's secretariat.

The party Central Committee appeals to the entire party, Armed Forces, and people to increase the spirit of solidarity around the party and transform the resolutions adopted by the fifth party Central Committee's 13th plenum into concrete activities by actively taking part in the revolutionary movement to continue strengthening and gradually improving further the all-round situation.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 11 August 1991.

National Assembly Session To Begin 'Very Soon'

BK1108000491 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 10 Aug 91

["Communique on the 21st Session of the First National Assembly"; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Standing Committee of the National Assembly wishes to inform the public that the State of Cambodia's National Assembly will begin its 21st ordinary session, first legislature very soon at the National Assembly hall under the chairmanship of Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia.

According to the planned agenda, the National Assembly will listen to the Council of Ministers' report on the situation of the implementation of the socioeconomic plan and state budget and the military and security and foreign affairs tasks in the first quarter as well as the objective of the tasks to be performed during the second quarter of 1991.

In the meantime, the National Assembly also examined and adopted a number of laws and approved several important issues.

Commentary Argues Against Dissolution of Troops

BK1108085891 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Station commentary: "Does the Refusal To Disarm and Dissolve Armed Forces Before Election Create a Nonneutral Political Atmosphere?"]

[Text] To this day, the military aspect of a solution to the Cambodian problem still remains an acute issue. The session of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] in August will raise this issue for discussion to find a common ground aimed at consolidating the atmosphere of mutual trust established in Phatthaya and Beijing.

The other Cambodia side has again and again demanded the disarming and dissolution of all warring Cambodian parties' forces and the dispatch of UN peacekeeping forces. The State of Cambodia side, which controls nearly 100 percent of the territory and people, has proposed that troops and weapons be gathered and kept in respective garrisons; those responsible for this gathering would then report on the number of weapons and troops to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, UNTAC in short.

Samdech Sihanouk, chairman of the SNC, said in Beijing that the Armed Forces should not be dissolved and that this issue should instead be left to the new government, which results from free and just elections. Despite all this, the other Cambodian side still shouts that this State of Cambodia's idea is creating a political atmosphere which is not neutral during the election. This is our question: Is that so?

Although troops of warring Cambodian parties are not disarmed and dissolved, during the transitional period, these troops will be gathered in garrisons and the movement of weapons in and out of garrisons strictly prohibited and under UNTAC supervision. The gathering place for troops from each side should be far apart from one another to avoid exchange of artillery shelling. If necessary, an UNTAC buffer zone shoul be set up. Therefore, is there any reason for military interference which causes a nonneutral political atmosphere?

Experiences in Namibia and [words indistinct] and a number of countries in Europe have clearly reflected this truth. The State of Cambodia genuinely shares the concern of the other Cambodian side on the occurence of a nonneutral political atmosphere. However, the State of Cambodia requests that the other Cambodian side also share the Cambodian people's concern over the Pol Pot clique's seizure of the opportunity to seize power.

Everyone knows that the disarming and dissolution of troops can be perfectly carried out only with the State of Cambodia because the State of Cambodia's Armed Forces are regular troops with units, garrisons, positions, and are properly registered. As for the troops of the other Cambodian side, particularly those of the Pol Pot clique—who are guerrillas and bandits with no fixed units and poitions—how can these troops be effectively disarmed and dissolved? This is excluding the large amount of weapons and ammunition this clique has hidden and, according to reliable sources, these weapons and ammunition would allow Pol Pot to fight a war for five to seven years.

Thus, if troops are disarmed and dissolved, the Cambodian people—who for over the past 12 years have successfully opposed the genocidal regime's attempts to return—would be tied up for the Pol Pot group to massacre. Furthermore, everyone knows that whatever the election result, following the election, Pol Pot will continue to wage war. UNTAC's military body in Cambodia during the transitional period cannot stay and defend our people for years and years. If war erupted, the only victims would be the Cambodian people.

Furthermore, these people should understand that the fact that the State of Cambodia wants to maintain its troops before the election does not mean that the State of Cambodia is a warmonger or that it wants to continue fighting. It only defends the people and prevents the Pol Pot clique from seizing the opportunity to return and massacre the people. If the State of Cambodia really nurtures this kind of idea, as people have thought it does, it would not have embarked on negotiations to search for a solution to the Cambodian problem with the other side because for more than the past 12 years, the State of Cambodia has managed to have the upper hand on the battlefield. Now as in the future, one cannot topple the State of Cambodia through military means. Everyone has recognized this.

In sum, our people think that this military issue should not be allowed to create obstacles to a political solution to the Cambodian problem. For the sake of national pride and to end the people's suffering, there should be cooperation to advance the solution to the Cambodian problem along the path marked out by Phatthaya and Beijing and on the basis of national reconciliation.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Visits 7-8 Aug

BK1008024891 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] On 7 August the U.S. congressional delegation led by Thomas Carper, U.S. Democratic congressman, arrived in Cambodia for talks over U.S. servicemen missing in the Indochina war and the process of a peaceful solution in Cambodia. Comrade Long Visalo, Cambodian deputy foreign minister, (?greeted) the delegation at Pochentong airpot.

During its stay in Cambodia on 7 and 8 August, the U.S. congressional delegation met with Comrade Hor Namhong, foreign minister, and visited various places in Phnom Penh. This is the fourth time in 1991 that a delegation from the U.S. Congress has visited the State of Cambodia.

Leaders Send Greetings on Indian National Day

BK1008135191 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1132 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 Aug (SPK)—Heng Samrin, chairman of the State Council, recently sent a message of warm greetings to Indian President I.R. Venkataraman on the 44th national day of the Republic of India.

The message read: "We follow with satisfaction, and highly value, the effective measures that you have introduced in the national and international fields for the sake of national unity and the development of the Indian people and the international community.

We are firmly confident that the time-honored relations between our two countries will further expand in the interests of our two peoples, and for peace and cooperation in the region and the world as a whole."

In the meantime, on behalf of the Cambodian Government and people, Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, conveyed cordial greetings to Indian Prime Minister Pamulaparti Venkata Narasimha Rao, expressing profound gratitude to the Indian Government for its support of the Cambodian people and its efforts in the search for a rational political solution to the Cambodian problem.

For his part, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong also extended warm greetings to his Indian counterpart, Madhavsinh Solanki.

Japanese UNESCO Delegation Visits

BK1108095091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] From 8 to 11 August, a delegation of the (?National Federation) of the Japanese UNESCO Association led by (?Director) (Yoshioka) with the participation of Mrs (Kanoza), director of the central office of UNESCO [words indistinct], paid a visit to the State of Cambodia.

The delegation held talks with the Cambodian national UNESCO committee with the presence of Comrade Sok An, deputy foreign minister and chairman of the committee; Comrade Mom Chimhuy, deputy education minister; and Comrade Pen Yet, deputy information and culture minister. The talks focused on the relations and cooperation between the two committees, Cambodian and Japanese. The National Federation of the Japanese UNESCO Association proposed that the Cambodian UNESCO committee take part in the second Asian children's art festival to mark the International Year of Literacy.

The talks went on in a cordial and attentive atmosphere. During the stay in the State of Cambodia, the delegation also visited the Angkor temples; the faculties of fine arts, music, and architecture; and the national museum.

International Organizations Give Aid

BK1108052991 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0424 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 11—Sixty-six international organisations gave Cambodia 15,290 tons of aid in the first six months of the year, said an official of the National Committee for Receiving and Distributing Aid.

Um Em, secretary of the committee, said most of the aid has been provided for the development of health care, agriculture, education, and social affaires and to the Cambodian Red Cross.

Aid supply to Cambodia this year is estimated to increase to 40 million U.S. dollars compared with 30 million dollars last year, he said.

UNICEF and the World Food Program (WFP) have been the biggest donators to Cambodia in health care, agriculture, education, and household food program. Part of the donations has been provided to the Cambodian Women's Association for improvement of women's living conditions.

A seminar on aid distribution to Cambodian children was organised here in early July by UNICEF, Um Em said.

In addition to the supplies by those organisations, the United Nations gave seven tons of medicinal aid to Cambodia in late July, he said.

The aid was transported overland for the first time since 1979 from Thailand across the border into the western part of Cambodia.

Khieu Samphan Message to UN Secretary General

BK1008021791 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 Aug 91

["Message from His Excellency Khieu Samphan, Democratic Kampuchea vice president in charge of foreign affairs, to His Excellency Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General, on the issue of a UN control mission in Cambodia"; dated 6 August—read by announcer]

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General; through H.E. Ambassador Thiounn Prasith, New York.

Your Excellency: We have received the 3 August 1991 telegraphic message from H.E. Rafiuddin Ahmed on the dispatch of a UN survey mission to Cambodia from 17 August to 3 September 1991.

1. We would like to recall that the meetings of the Supreme National Council [SNC] in Phatthaya and Beijing meticulously discussed the control of the ceasefire and the cessation of military aid. At the meetings in Phatthaya and Beijing, the SNC unanimously agreed on UN control.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the SNC, has written a letter, dated 16 July 1991, to H.E. the UN secretary general requesting the United Nations to dispatch a survey team to Cambodia to assess the control modalities and to send an appropriate number of UN staff to control the cease-fire and the cessation of military aid. Without UN control, the cease-fire and cessation of military aid cannot take place on the battlefield in Cambodia after a war of nearly 13 years. In this region, there have been bitter experiences with cease-fires without genuine control. The last experience was the Paris agreement in 1973 after which North Vietnam seized the opportunity to launch an offensive against South Vietnam in April 1975.

It is in this spirit that we persistently requested UN control at the SNC meetings both in Phatthaya and Beijing. In the first step, we propose the dispatch of a UN control team comprising between 500 and 700 members successively followed by a second and third group until there is a complete UN Transitional Authority, including military and civilian members, to carry out its comprehensive task.

2. In this spirit, we will receive the technical group led by General Timothi Dibuama, as the Secretary General has proposed and at the time set by the latter, for further discussion.

3. As the Secretary General has specified, this group is only a technical one. We hope that after this group's return, your excellency secretary general would make efforts to dispatch a 500- 700-strong control team to Cambodia in the initial phase to control the cease-fire and the cessation of foreign military aid in accordance with our request, as stated in Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's 16 July 1991 message on behalf of the SNC.

Without UN control, the war in Cambodia will not end. There could be danger affecting even the fine results of the meetings in Phatthaya and Beijing because Vietnamese troops are hiding in Cambodia by every means and fresh troops continue to be brought in.

I would like to take this opportunity to express again the most profound gratitude to your excellency for the successive efforts to restore peace and independence in Cambodia on the basis of the 28 August 1990 framework document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Your Excellency, please accept my high consideration.

[Dated] Cambodia, 6 August 1991

[Signed] Khieu Samphan

Ranariddh Plans Tour To Establish Contacts

BK1108015091 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Aug 91 p A2

[By Kulachada Chaiphiphat, Yindi Loetcharoenchok]

[Text] Cambodia's Prime Norodom Ranariddh plans a worldwide tour to establish contact with national leaders as well as overseas Cambodians with Australia and New Zealand being the first stops.

Ranariddh, who heads the non-communist Cambodian faction of Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] will leave here on Wednesday for a one-week visit to Australia and New Zealand where he will hold talks with government leaders of the two countries. He will also try to establish contact with the Cambodian communities there.

A Funcinpec official told THE NATION yesterday that the prince will meet both Australia's Prime Minister Bob Hawke and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Gareth Evans during his Aug 14-18 stay in the country at the invitation of Canberra.

His itinerary in New Zealand has not yet been finalized but he will meet among other officials Foreign Minister Don McKinnon. The Cambodian official said the prince has not yet sought to meet with Prime Minister Jim Bolger but he did not exclude the possibility.

The main objective of his tour was to brief the leaders of the two countries about the development of the Cambodian peace process and hope the discussions would facilitate the peace talks achieving its final political settlement, according to the Funcinpec official.

The official said Ranariddh would also discuss with the leaders of the host countries development aid for the post-war reconstructon of Cambodia. The Supreme National Council (SNC) which joined Phnom Penh and the tripartite resistance coalition did not form a united committee to prepare for reconstruction.

It was understood that each faction would seek its own financial support until a permanent peace agreement is signed.

The official said the prince will also take the opportunity to meet hundreds of thousands of Cambodians who have resettled in the two Pacific nations.

Ranariddh will return on Aug 21 to Bangkok, the day his father Prince Norodm Sihanouk is scheduled to arrive in Thailand where the two will attend the next round of the SNC meeting in Phatthaya from Aug 26-28.

The official said Ranariddh's overseas plan includes trips to France, Switzerland, Belgium and Britian which will take place after his travel to the United States where he will attend the annual meeting of the UN General Assembly in New York next month.

Prince Sihanouk will lead a five-member SNC delegation including Ranariddh to attend the UN meeting and for the first time the Cambodian seat will be occupied by the SNC.

In the United States, the official said Ranariddh will also visit the Cambodian communities in New York, California where thousands of Cambodian refugees have been resettled.

He said Ranariddh's overseas trips will take place during these three months before his eventual return to Phnom Penh in November.

Laos

Assembly Meeting on Constitution Postponed

BK0908150891 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of Laos has postponed its meeting for the deliberation of the country's first draft constitution to next week. It is believed that the meeting will lead to a cabinet reshuffle and the increase in the power of the country's president. Laos will have its first constitution, if approved by the SPA, following the change in the country's administrative system 16 years ago. This constitution is the second in the history of Laos. The SPA members, who were elected by the people two years ago, were formerly scheduled to hold a meeting to consider the draft constitution this week. However, the meeting has been postponed to next week due to some inconveniences and disagreement on some clauses of the constitution. The Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee has been convening an internal meeting since last Tuesday to consider the draft constitution prior to forwarding it to the SPA. The meeting will end on Saturday. This is one of the reasons for the postponement of the meeting.

Phoun Sipaseut, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and foreign minister of Laos, said that 16 years is not too long to draft a constitution. He said:

[Begin Phoun Sipaseut recording in Lao] The length of time for drafting a constituion varies from one country to another. However, all countries have laws. A constitution provides legal foundations. Laws are enforced even without a constitution. This is probably rather difficult to understand. Some countries can draft their constitutions quickly while many others might take years. I believe that we have been working according to the actual conditions in our country. [end recording]

It was reported that one of the causes for the delay in the deliberation of the constitution was disagreement on the increase in the power of the country's president. However, this report was denied. Laos has reaffirmed that it will retain its single-party political system.

[Begin Phoun recording] The draft constitution was presented to the people for consideration three times. The majority of the people want to have only one party as at present. [end recording]

The SPA meeting is expected to lead to changes in important positions in the Lao cabinet. Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihan is likely to replace Prince Souphanouvong as the country's president. Khamtai Siphandon, deputy prime minster, defense minister, and the supreme commander of Laos' armed forces, is expected to be appointed as prime minister.

National Assembly To Convene 13-15 Aug

BK1208101791 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 12 (KPL)—Mr. Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the Standing Committee of the People's Supreme Assembly [PSA], in a briefing here on August 10 told Lao mediamen about the preparation of the sixth session of the PSA's second legislature due to be opened here between August 13-15, 1991.

The main purpose of the session is to study and approve the first constitution of the country, discuss about laws on the election of deputies of the National Assembly, the 1991's budget and the election of the country's president.

Ministry on Readiness To Consider ASEAN Aid

BK1108023891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0126 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Vientiane, Aug 11 (AFP)—Laos is ready to consider favourably an offer of cooperation made to the Indochinese nations recently by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), a top Foreign Ministry official has said.

"We have already asked to become a member of the treaty" on which ASEAN is based, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Soulivong Phasitthidet told AFP on Saturday.

"It is certain that we are going to favourably study this proposition, because it goes in the direction of the creation of a zone of peace in the region, to which we have always been favourable," he added.

Soulivong, however, expressed doubt that all six ASEAN countries—Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Indonesia—were keen on cooperating with Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia, the three countries of Indochina.

"Thailand in particular seems to have other ambitions for the Indochinese peninsula, on which it would like to have a certain leadership," he said.

Asked if the Thais were seeking hegemony in the region, Soulivong replied that "I can't say no, but the future is no longer hegemonism but coexistence.

"Perhaps certain people in Thailand think that way, but not us."

Thailand, seeking opportunities for its booming economy, has improved its relations with the three communist countries of Indochina in recent years, after a long period of strain caused by the Cambodian conflict.

But Soulivong stressed that a close relationship with ASEAN would not jeopardise "the special relations that exist between Laos and its two communist Indochinese neighbours, and especially Vietnam."

"Our special relations with Vietnam are durable," he added, "because they rest on a common history and conform to geographic and political reality."

Laos is completely surrouned by other countries, Soulivong pointed out, "and we need, especially when faced with Thailand, these relations of solidarity with Vietnam, which is also a country with very important economic potential."

Still, relations between his country and Thailand "have been on the right track for several months," and disputes between them "will be resolved with time and goodwill fromm both parties," he predicted.

A border dispute, bilateral commercial relations and the issue of Laotian refugees in camps inside Thailand are the main points of contention between Vientiane and Bangkok.

Soulivong acknowledged that the border issue, involving 80,000 square kilometres (32,000 square miles) of territory, is especially thorny.

It "could be resolved with time, but history remains history and the origin (of the dispute) came from an agreement between Thailand and France, the former colonial power," he said.

The deputy minister was more positive about what he described as Laos's good relations with China, symbolised by a Sino-Laotian agreement on the voluntary return of about 4,000 Laotian refugees from the adjacent Chinese province of Yunnan.

Relations with the Soviet Union, until recently the main aid supplier to Laos, "were normal," but Soviet economic problems limit the potential of the relationship, Soulivong said.

According to Soviet diplomatic sources, aid to Laos has been considerably reduced, and Soviet products—notably oil and fertiliser—are now sold at world prices and only for hard currency.

Official Pleased on Progress of Cambodian Peace

BK1108092291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0832 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Excerpts] Vientiane, Aug 11 (AFP)—Laos is pleased with progress toward a solution to the Cambodian conflict, a Foreign Ministry official said here.

"The solution has never been so close," Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phrasithideth said recently, adding that "80 per cent of the problems have already been resolved." [passage omitted]

"Laos, which now has good relations with Beijing, contributed to the rapprochement between the Phnom Penh regime and China," the main backer of the resistance and especially its most powerful faction, the Khmer Rouge, Soulivong added.

"But we are worried about the possibility that they (the Khmer Rouge) will return to Phnom Penh," the official said, calling for stringent efforts to "prevent the return of a genocidal regime." [passage omitted]

"We hope that the upcoming meetings of the SNC [Supreme National Council] will bring about a solution to the remaining problems to put the peace plan into operation as soon as possible," Soulivong said. [passage omitted

Implementation of the peace plan is to be worked out by the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC), of which Laos is a member.

"Given the agreements already existing among the Cambodians and the problems that remain to be resolved, I think the Paris conference may be held at the beginning of next year," Soulivong said.

The PICC also includes all the Cambodian factions, the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, and the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The three communist states of Indochina—Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam— share a "special relationship" and Laos has consistently supported the Phnom Penh government.

Philippines

Rumors of Honasan's New Coup Plan Reported

Checkpoints Reinstated

HK1208050491 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] The military and police reinstated checkpoints at major roads and highways in the province of Laguna in reply to a report stating that former Colonel Gringo Honasan's group is planning to launch a new coup d'etat. Superintendent Virtous Gil, provincial police chief, explains that he ordered the installation of checkpoints after getting an intelligence report saying that Honasan's group and the forces of the military rebels from southern Luzon and Bicol are set to launch an attack to primary military camps and television and radio stations in Metro Manila.

Based on the intelligence report, the Honasan's group allied itself with the leaders of the New People's Army [NPA] in Bicol and Southern Tagalog and agreed to launch an attack on different important military installations in Metro Manila. According to Gil, Honasan and his men were seen riding in a Mercedes Benz and two Land Cruisers and was reported to be going around areas controlled by NPA in Sorsogon, Camarines Sur, and Quezon.

Policeman Denies Report

HK1208105891 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By Benjie de Galicia of DZRH Unit No. 20]

[Text] No official statement was made by the Laguna Provincial Command regarding another coup d'etat which reportedly would start in Southern Tagalog. This development came at the same time as Lieutenant Colonel Vertuso Gil, Laguna Philippine National Police provincial director made a vehement denial in his telephone report this morning to Brigadier General Evaristo Carino at Camp Vicente Lim, where Unit 20 was also on standby for the latter's reaction. [sentence as heard]

The reaction was based on a news item which came out this morning that renegade Gringo Honasan will once again launch a coup attempt. General Carino denied that Honasan was spotted in a Mercedez-Benz in the provinces of Bicol and Quezon.

Carino also added that the report in the morning newspaper had no basis, because Colonel Gil is currently confined to a hospital in Metro Manila for a check-up on an undetermined illness when he called up Camp Vicente Lim.

Plan Called 'Propaganda Ploy'

HK1208104591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By Fernan Inberga of DZRH Unit No. 22; italicized passages in English]

[Text] The military announced today that rebel soldiers are now crippled and will not be able to launch another coup d'etat. Colonel Victor Garcia, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] spokesman, said the launching of another coup d'etat this week is simply a propaganda ploy of military rebels affiliated with the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People- Young Officers Union [RAM-KSP-YOU].

[Begin Garcia recording in progress] *...the possibility of another coup is concerned* or if we will talk about the possibility of another coup d'etat, I believe the ultrarightist groups led by Commodore Calajate and Colonel Gringo Honasan have no capability anymore to conduct another successful coup d'etat. As the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] has said, *we have marginalized their capability.* In short, the AFP has crippled their capability because many of them, especially their leaders, have already been captured. *Majority of their leaders actually are already in government control.* So this possibility of another coup *is not possible.* So, this thing we hear about another coup d'etat [word indistinct] is really nothing but propaganda. [end recording]

Garcia also denied the reported forging of an unholy alliance between the groups of renegade Colonel Gringo Honasan and the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army to carry out a simultaneous attack against the present government.

[Resume Garcia recording] Now, if we are going to talk about the possibility that they [RAM-KSP-YOU] *will link up with the leftist group for an unholy alliance, I don't think that it is possible.* First of all, these two groups have different principles. *I do not think that even the leftist groups will allow themselves to be used by the group of Gringo Honasan and company.* [end recording]

Secretary Drilon on Return of Marcos Remains

HK1208073091 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon pointed to the possibility of rebel soldiers and anti-Cory forces using the return of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos' remains to destabilize the current government. According to Drilon, this is the why Malacanang has been reluctant until now to allow the return of Marcos' remains to be buried here. Drilon expressed fears that the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officer's Union rebels might throw bombs at the funeral procession of Marcos and blame the government and the Cory forces for the bombing. Drilon disclosed an intelligence report saying Mrs. Marcos started to give money, T-shirts, and food to the residents of Tondo in order to persuade them to join the wake and to escort the body of former President Marcos to his final resting place. Although the rebel soldiers do not have the capability to launch another coup d'etat, Drilon says they still have the capacity to destabilize the current government.

Officials, Others Discuss U.S. Bases Issue

Congressional Panel Meets

HK0908140491 Quezon City People's Television 4 in English 1430 GMT 8 Aug 91

["Congress Forum" program hosted by Joe Carlos and Mike Genovea with guests former Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, Senator Aquilino Pimentel, Speaker of the House Ramon Mitra, Blas Ople of the Nacionalista Party, Senator Neptali Gonzales, Senator Heherson Alvarez, Evelyn Dominguez, and U.S. Embassy Spokesman Stanley Schrager—recorded; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Carlos] *At this point Mr Speaker [Mitra], we would like to shift to another topic and talk about the U.S. military bases agreement. We know that this will expire by September this year and we* *would like to know your positions. First of all, I would like to know Secretary Ramos' position on this controversial military bases agreement.*

[Ramos] *Thank you Joe. In my opinion the compensation package in the proposed treaty is not enough. However, I believe that this is probably the best that can be expected under the circumstances. However, the possible supplemental or auxiliary agreements, the package which will come from the excess defense items should be increased because that is a flexible ceiling. And with a more generous component coming from that portion, we can modernize the Armed Forces a little faster. It is necessary for the U.S. Government to give an accurate listing of the available inventory of excess engineer and hospital equipment, and other such items so that whatever we may get or receive under this program can be used in our countryside development, especially in disaster areas.*

[Carlos] *Secretary, cannot we include your proposal in the proposed treaty?*

[Ramos] *It is already there, but, more or less, the ceiling or the estimate is roughly in the range of about $150 million per year. But there is lots of excess equipment that can be generated through this program.*

[Carlos] *Okay, Senator Pimintel?*

[Pimintel] *On my part, Joe, in this treaty, the Americans are really being stingy with us. This is why I cannot vote for it under the terms and conditions of the proposed treaty because I believe that we are being exploited. They know that we are in need because of Mt Pinatubo's explosion and other natural calamities which have befallen our country. What one would call this is:* "they're dangling a lollipop over our heads." *Better accept this because your needs are great.*

[Carlos] Senator, what will change your mind to ratify this treaty?

[Pimintel] Better terms...

[Carlos, interrupting] Like what?

[Pimintel] For our people. A bigger compensation package. *Because Joe I would like to explain, for a while,* that I do not buy the argument that by entering into a new treaty with the Americans, we are necessarily diminishing our sovereignty. That is an act of sovereignty itself. When you, as a sovereign nation enter into a treaty with another sovereign nation, your sovereignty is not really affected to the extent that you can be criticized for it. Other countries have done it why can't we do it. So I do not buy that. Even that which they are saying that by having their bases here in our country, we are converting ourselves into magnates for a nuclear attacks. *Maybe that would apply before,* but not after perestroika and glasnost and START had been signed. *So the important thing here is that we should use the bases negotiation for the advantage of our country. We should not just accept with closed eyes the cheap terms that are being offered to us.*

[Genovea] Senator, in the House there are a lot of initiatives giving us additional benefits. For example, the proposals by Congressman Romero and Congressman De Venecia giving us at least 65 billion a year [currency unspecified] in additional benefits. *Is this not enough to convince you to ratify this?*

[Pimintel] *What I would like to happen, Mike, is for this to be included in the treaty itself as a "hard cash" component. So that no matter what happens, they are committed to give that one.* Because the future things that we can look forward to are something that depends on a lot of circumstances. *I have also noticed that in the proposed treaty; the access to credit which we still have to borrow are included in the compensation. I believe that this is not right.*

[Carlos] *Speaker Mitra, what is your position on this matter?*

[Mitra] *The issue that we should decide on here, I think, is not contained within the treaty. What we should decide on is whether we would like to continue our current relationship with the United States. Because no matter what we say, the outcome of this decision will affect our relationship with America.*

The amount that is contained here, and if that is what we are going to discuss, what they are saying may be true that the foreign policy we follow is a cash register foreign policy. But that is not the case, there are bigger things that are involved in this issue. Large amounts of money, if we are going to talk about money. Do we want to change our relationship with the United States now? And what are the ramifications of our rejection of these bases? Will the Americans take this badly? No matter what they say, they will take this badly because according to them, the important thing here are not the American investments, not the human rights violations. This is their number one interest at present. If you eject them, our relationship with the United States will change. And are we ready? What would we lose? We should know these things when we make a decision.

We should know the price of a change in our relationship with the Americans. Are we prepared to pay the price of a rupture of our friendly relations with the United States?

[Genovea] Mr Speaker, I understand the LDP [Struggle of Filipino Democrats] leadership met this evening to take a party stand on the bases issue. May we know what was decided?

[Mitra] No, it is not the LDP leadership, it is the entire membership of the House of Representatives. We've met this evening to make a decision on whether or not we should take a stand and the decision was that we will take a stand but we will want first to know the terms of the agreement. And there was, I guess, a general agreement that we will want to know, whether the terms we will want to know what would be the defect from those who are familiar with all of these agreements. [sentence as heard] For example, is there realization that what is involved here could be billions of dollars that are not contained in the agreement. Our trade relations, United States is our number one trading partner. Our trade balance last year was almost $1 billion in favor of the Philippines. We don't have that kind of relationship with any other country. *Our garment agreement will expire in September. What do we do? Do we allow this to go? This is $1.5 billion. I am not saying that because of this, we should approve this treaty. But these are the things that we should face and study before we decide on this. Is our country prepared for the change of this relationship? So, I suggested in the past that we should hold a referendum so that all these matters be discussed and be known by the public. At present, you ask them if they know what is there to lose if we reject the bases agreement. Not many know that much.*

[Carlos] *Mr Speaker, let us listen to the position of Mr Blas from the Nacionalistas.*

[Ople] *As a party, the Nacionalista Party ratified its platform on 24 May 1989 during our convention. What it stipulates is for the party to* stand for an orderly phaseout of five to 10 years for the bases under certain condition that will guarantee fair compensation, trade accesss, and the modernization of our Armed Forces in order to prepare our external defense capability during the interval. Now, the situation [word indistinct] and sometime at the end of 1989, this was amended by the Central Committee in favor of immediate termination. Some members of the Central Committee believe that this body can not overrule the decision of a national convention and therefore its position is recommendatory to the coming national convention. *Since then, this matter has not been included in the Nacionalista Party's agenda, although everyone knows that Doy Laurel and Johnny Ponce Enrile's positions differ on this subject.*

[Carlos] *Senator Gonzales, may we know from you whether there is still hope that the Senate may ratify the new bases treaty in the end?*

[Gonzales] *Well if you base it on the straw votes and the opinions and resolutions filed, it would be difficult to have the two-thirds vote from the Senate for the ratification of this new treaty.* But on my own, I feel that at a time when we are suffering in the throngs of the worst economic crisis in the last five years, it is neither time to be prudent to reject the new basing arrangement. *You know, the contents of the new bases treaty is different from the original military bases. It only presents one, which is Subic.* And Subic, it must be admitted that post-Pinatubo, it has already a shrinking value. Now, I think, it is not right for us to look only at the direct base-related compensation of 363 million pesos for the first year and 203 million pesos from the second to the 10th year.

[Genovea] *Senator, what is the LDP's position on this?*

[Gonzales] *Well, our position here as a party is while this is still under discussion and has not yet been signed, I think,* we would defer to the negotiators of the Philippine Government so that from the viewpoint of the United States we are speaking only with one voice. *Because if all of us talk at the same time and present different views, the Americans would say they are hearing too many different opinions.*

[Carlos] *Senator, let us hear the reactions of our other guests. Evelyn?*

[Dominguez] *First of all, let me introduce those present at this table. First is Mr Stanley Schrager, U.S. Embassy spokesman; Senator Heherson Alvarez; Congressman Rodolfo Albano; former Information Minister Gregorio Cendana; Congresswoman Adeliza Raymundo; and the two representatives of the Taiwan Embassy, Mr William Dee and Mr David Shen.* [passage omitted]

[Dominguez] *Senator Alvarez will give his reaction.*

[Alvarez] *Is it regarding the presidentiables [presidential hopefuls] or the bases? Anyway, I think this is an opportunity to test the ability of our presidentiables, to see if their response regarding the bases meets the country's needs. Like Speaker Mitra, if his response is the one we have been looking for, maybe Mr Mitra should become president. But if Secretary Ramos' response meets our needs, then maybe it should be Secretary Ramos. This is the opportunity for us to determine through our leaders' explanation how they will react to the country's big problems. So, maybe tonight, the opinions of the senators or the congressmen may not matter but that of our presidentiables do. Where will they take us in the event they become president?*

These are the people we are putting on trial now—these presidentiables. So, if you ask me about my opinion on the bases, I have to think about it thoroughly. I am not happy about the new treaty, so I have to scrutinize this and my decision during the vote will be for the national interest. Previously, I was already happy with a continuous relation with the United States, but when I saw that the final treaty was incomplete...

[Carlos, interrupting] Senator, for our own interests, we have to break for a few commercials. [commercial break] The people in Central Luzon will be most affected by the military bases agreement and our colleague Blas has a reaction to this.

[Ople] Thank you, Joe. Before we leave this subject, I think I am obliged to lay out the position of those from Central Luzon on the military bases, because right now, they are going through a lot of hardship. About 1 million people lost their jobs, houses, and their future because of Pinatubo, and then this new crisis resulting from the sudden pullout of the military bases, which the Senate may or may not ratify. I do not see any clear-cut plan on how our government could help the whole Central Luzon region with a 5- million population, which is now experiencing major problems due to the volcano, then aggravated by the closure of Clark field and maybe followed by the closure of Subic. Angeles and Olongapo will be erased from the map, including many towns of Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales, and Bataan. [sentence as heard] Up to now, no bill has been filed in the Philippine Congress, neither in the Senate or the lower house, which responds to this situation and looks into the future of those from Central Luzon. Congress has not allocated any fund for this. So, I think, we should not leave this matter until we hear from Mr Mitra and the Senate representative, Senator Neptali Gonzales, that the Congress has a strategy in the making for resolving Central Luzon's problems.

[Carlos] There is a short reaction from Senator Alvarez.

[Alvarez] With due respect, Blas. There is a bill for that. This bill seeks the formation of the so-called Pinatubo Development Authority, which will look into all the dimensions of the problems to take care of the livelihood of the people there, especially the fishermen and farmers of Zambales. It is also seeking the establishment of a fund, coming from various sources, that has a target of about 40 billion [no currency specified]. This has been filed. I am the author of the bill, so I know.

[Carlos] Senator Gonzales.

[Gonzales] I think what Blas said is not true, that the...

[Ople, interrupting] The base conversion strategy of Jose Abueva has been made inutile.

[Gonzales] There was a study. And there is a conversion plan for that but it has been rendered useless because of the Pinatubo eruption. But now, we are considering several bills by which we can raise money for this purpose. There is a proposal to use the 2.5 billion pesos from the Oil Price Stabilization Fund for the Pinatubo situation. But when we had a meeting, the Department of Budget and Management said there is no need to do this because there is enough funds and they will be included in the budget. Because from the savings, we could get about 5 billion pesos from the 1992 budget. There are many other sources of money for the rehabilitation of the Pinatubo-devastated areas./

[Genovea] Mr Speaker, do we have plans in the house regarding strategy regarding the Pinatubo eruption?

[Mitra] *Mike, Blas knows that not all of the country's problems require new law. The Pinatubo event needs no new law. We already have plenty of laws. There are already 16,000 laws in our statute books. The president and the government have sufficient authority to face these problems. There is enough money. The president has the power to transfer funds wherever they are needed. The funds are there, they could be used for this purpose. Secretary Ramos knows he has billions of pesos for disaster relief. If there is none, the president can get it from another source. The truth to this is that there is plenty of money left in our earthquake fund which has not been used yet. So, there is no need to create new laws for every problem we have.* There are inherent powers of the presidency that can be utilized in order to appraise this problem.

[Carlos] *Mr Secretary, you were a former chairman of the National Disaster Coordinating Council?*

[Ramos] *Thank you, Joe Carlos. It seems that the point here is the length of the planning period for the rehabilitation of Central Luzon. And maybe, we can recall that during the earthquake, July 1990, the Congress reacted very quickly by appropriating 15 billion pesos within two days. And during typhoon Ruping, there was also a quick response. But on this Central Luzon disaster caused by the Mt Pinatubo eruption, the effect was not only extensive but also long-range. And* this is the greatest disaster that really hit the Philippines in our memory and this should be given priority over everything else. *And we should not give this such an extensive connection with the military bases agreement because the assistance which should be allocated for the rehabilitation and normalization of Central Luzon must come from our national resources.* The other parts of the country also must contribute not only to the relief or emergency assistance but long-range rehabilitation of one of the most productive areas of the country, which is Central Luzon. And this needs, I think, a legislative policy of some kind, so that the resources can be immediately generated and applied to the disaster area. [passage omitted]

Further on Opposition

HK1208102491 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 12 Aug 91 pp 1, 2

[By Jose H. Macaspac III, Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Senators opposed to the ratification of the new bases accord between the Philippines and the United States will block any move to turn Congress into a constituent assembly, anti-bases Senator Wigberto Tanada said yesterday.

He explained that the senators feared the move could be a ploy by bases treaty advocates to have the pact approved.

The proposal for Congress to convene as a constituent assembly was made purportedly to address problems in the coming elections, including the dates of the polls and a perceived power vacuum that may arise out of it.

However, if a constituent assembly is formed, the Constitution, particularly its transitory provisions on the bases as well as its ban of the presence of nuclear weapons in the country, could also be changed.

"Malalim Maglaro ang U.S. (The U.S. has an intricate game plan)," Tanada told NEWSDAY.

He said he believed that the U.S. will not easily agree to a rejection of the treaty because it needs a military installation in the Philippines.

He added that those who are against the prolonged stay of the U.S. in the bases were definitely watching the steps of the U.S. and the pro-bases legislators so that "remedial measures" may immediately be undeertaken to block attempts at reversing the Senate's stand against the new accord.

In a straw vote Tanada conducted recently, 16 senators said they were against the new treaty in its present form, arguing that the compensation package is simply unacceptable.

But he said the anti-bases bloc "will not count the chicks until the eggs hatch," apparently wary of last-minute attempts by the U.S. and his probases colleagues to have the bases treaty approved.

Meanwhile, local and U.S. officials are now toeing the Washington line predicting a "clear and present danger" ahead.

In the past few weeks since the Senate conducted a straw vote which showed 16 senators against the agreement, Philippine officials in succession have pictured a doom scenario for the country. U.S. officials have also warned that Manila would lose its "privileged status" if the agreement is not ratified.

On Saturday, Defense Secretary-designate Renato de Villa said the country's defensive capacity would face serious setbacks if the bases agreement is rejected.

He reasoned that the AFP's [Armed Forces of the Philippines] "modernization program would ground to a halt since it takes an enormous amount of money to pursue such plans under our own resources."

De Villa went on to mention the effects of a rejection. In the next three years, military air transport will be disrupted if no replacvement parts are found for the aging C-130 planes. The military naval capability will also suffer because aging patrol boats cannot be replaced. These will weaken the AFP's campaign against the communist insurgency, he said.

On Friday, the same view was aired by President Aquino who said that "one of the effects of a rejection of the bases treaty will be the derailment of plans for the modernization of the Armed Forces."

A total of $253 million would flow directly to the military establishment annually for its modernization program if the treaty is ratified: $100 million in foreign military financing, $3 million in international military education training, and $140 million in excess defense articles.

Under the agreement reached July 17 between Manila and Washington, the U.S. will have a guaranteed 10-year use of the Subic Naval Base for an annual $203-million appropriated compensation. The U.S. lowered its $360-million compensation package after dropping the Clark Air Base which was devastated by the eruptions of Mt. Pinatubo.

Aside from the appropriated package, the U.S. will also provide non-bases related benefits like increased trade access and purchase of Philippine products by U.S. bases in the Pacific region.

The U.S. also assured the Philippines it would exert its influence in multilateral funding institutions to provide the country with the much-needed financial resources to sustain its economic growth.

Anti-bases avocates also stepped up their campaign against the treaty. They said the continued stay of U.S. forces in the country eroded its sovereignty and imperilled its economic development.

The new agreement, they said, would institutionalize the "parasitic culture" of the Filipino people as well as perpetuate the iniquitous relationship between the Philippines and the U.S.

University of the Philippines Professor Roland Simbulan, national chairman of the Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition (NFPC), earlier refrained from making a declaration that thenew bases agreement violates the provisions of the Philippine Constitution, which bans the storage of nuclear weapons in the country. Citing the holocaust of a nuclear disaster, he said it was the "duty of every Filipino to be a nuclear-free zone advocate."

Already, U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager has admitted that "what gives the Philippines the privilege and status to some degree in the U.S. is that we are partners in this security relationship and this relationship ensures U.S. support for the continued stability of the Philippines."

He said Manila's "privileged status" took root from the basing arrangement of the U.S. in the Philippines. "This is not a threat; this is a reality. There is a political element in this whole thing," he said.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who negotiated the new agreement, has said the proposed treaty works in the national interest because the country is not yet ready to fill the vacuum arising from a U.S. pullout.

Although much of the Cold War establishments have crumbled and the superpower confrontation has eased considerably, the view from the Philippines has not changed as the local communist movement remains active in its campaign to gain power.

Even Japan, worried over the Soviet Union's long-term policy in the Asia-Pacific, has pushed for the retention of the U.S. military installations.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, during his visit to Manila in late July, said that while the Soviet Union's "new thinking" had taken root in Europe, it remained invisible in the Asia-Pacific region. And being the country's largest investor, the rejection of the proposed treaty would also cause Japan to restudy its development assistance to the country.

Philippine Ambassador to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez sees difficult times ahead for the country if the treaty is rejected.

Kenneth Quinn, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs, also voiced his assessment that the country, "already wracked by natural and man-made calamities, may be headed for more chaos and disasters, perhaps coup attempts against the government" if the treaty would be junked.

Sides Disagree Over Terminology

HK1208094191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By Rey Arquiza of DZRH Unit No. 21]

[Text] As of now, the Philippines and the United States have not yet fully agreed on the U.S. bases. The United States would like to refer to the U.S. bases agreement as a mere agreement, while the Philippines would like to call it a treaty.

The Americans are willing to call the agreement a treaty but do not want it to be called a treaty in official communications. Because of this, the remaining small issues in connection with the agreement cannot be resolved.

If the agreement is recognized by both countries as a treaty, they should abide by everything contained in the treaty. The Philippines' position on the issue is to bind the United States to its obligations contained in the agreement in exchange for the retention of the U.S. bases in the country.

8 Senators Oppose Ratification

HK1208043291 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Only eight senators remain opposed to the ratification of the new bases treaty. This was disclosed by a Senate source.

But according to Senator Wigberto Tanada, he believes that nine senators will vote against the treaty. Under the Constitution, two-thirds vote by the majority or a vote by 16 senators is required to ratify the bases treaty.

The eight anti-bases treaty senators are Senators Jovito Salonga, Sotero Laurel, Teofisto Guingona, Juan Ponce Enrile, Orlando Mercado, Joseph Estrada, Rene Saguisag, and Wigberto Tanada.

Aquino Lobbies for Ratification

HK1008031991 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] President Aquino has started lobbying to senators for the ratification of the new military bases treaty.

Nonetheless, the president failed to convince her brother-in-law, Senator Agapito Butz Aquino who opposes the ratification of the new bases agreement.

Senator Aquino admitted that the president tried to convince him to reverse his position on the issue, but he emphasized his commitment to oppose any agreement that will extend the retention of the bases in the country.

According to the source, although President Aquino failed to convince her brother-in-law, they arrived at a compromise agreement that the senator will vote against the ratification of the new treaty but will not campaign for the rejection of the new treaty by the Senate.

Senators Vow Swift Action

HK1208042391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Aug 91 pp 1, 7

[By Tony S. Bergonia]

[Text] Senate leaders are planning to suspend chamber rules to ensure swift action on the new bases agreement.

The "fast-track" approach was bared by sources in the Senate committee on rules who said Senate President Jovito Salonga has told the senators he would hold a caucus to determine their final votes on the agreement.

The caucus would be held before the votes are formally cast on the floor, the sources said.

Sen. Leticia Ramos-Shahani, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, also wanted to dispose of the agreement quickly, the sources said.

The agreement is expected to be signed by President Aquino and U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle sometime in the first week of September.

When the final document is submitted for formal Senate action a week after the signing, the senators may have little time to conduct public consultations on it.

The 1947 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-US Military Bases Agreement expires Sept. 16 this year, beyond which the Constitution prohibits foreign military bases unless a new treaty is ratified by two-thirds of the Senate membership.

The Senate leaders' plan is to assemble the chamber into a "committee as a whole" to skip hearings to be donducted by at least four commtitees—labor, foreign relations, national defense, and economic affairs.

Anti-bases senators fear that a closed-door decision on the bases could allow some of their colleagues to alter their positions.

"We want floor debates. Let our positions be on record," said Sen. Wigberto Tanada.

At least 16 senators rejected the new agreement in a straw vote conducted by Salonga. Others have refused to participate, saying it could unnecessarily bind them to a yes-or-no position.

"I resent this survey. I think it's just news management," said Sen. Edgardo Angara, who is in favor of keeping the bases here.

Some of those who had cast their "votes" said they could change their stand anytime, depending on how the agreement's final form would emerge.

Most of the senators who rejected the new agreement said the money the Philippines would receive from the U.S. for keeping Subic Naval Base for 10 more years was not sufficient to meet the country's needs.

Under the agreement, the Philippines would receive $203 million a year in appropriated amounts and other benefits.

Salonga Offers Subic Alternative

HK1008080091 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Senator Jovito Salonga has prepared an alternative option should there be no agreement signed on the retention of Subic naval base.

Salonga said he has long proposed to the United States that it privatize the military bases in the country. According to Salonga, he cannot understand why the United States keeps mouthing the term privatization of companies but cannot apply the same in the Philippines.

Salonga further explained that he has proposed to the United States that Subic be handled by a private Filipino company and that the U.S. bases be allowed to stay on commercial basis. Salonga added that in this way, the United States can keep their installations in the Asia-Pacific region while the Philippines can keep its sovereignty.

Salonga Admits U.S. Visitation

HK1108073791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga admitted that he was personally visited by Kenneth Quinn, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for East Asian affairs, to convince him to reverse his position regarding the military bases issues.

Salonga said in an interview with Joe Taruc, no matter what manner of courtship the Americans employ on him, the position of the senators not to ratify the new bases agreement still remains firm. Salonga said that their position can only change if there is renegotiation. Here is an excerpt of Salonga's statement.

[Begin recording] [Salonga] I was visited in my house recently by a high official of the State Department, Kenneth Quinn, the deputy assistant secretary for East Asian affairs of the State Department. But because he is a long-time friend, I guess I never changed my position and he left as my friend just the same.

[Taruc] Did you discuss anything that has to do with the bases agreement, Mr. Senate President?

[Salonga] Our entire discussion was devoted to this new agreement, and I told him that my position has nothing to do with the amount they want to give, that $203 million. My stand goes deeper than what they are offering under that new agreement. [end recording]

House Leaders Urge Plebiscite

HK1208053591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Aug 91 pp 1, 23

[By Rod L. Villa]

[Text] Speaker Ramon V. Mitra Jr. said yesterday there is no way the national budget can cover up to $3.5 billion to modernize or maintain the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] should this assistance be cancelled by the United States if the Senate rejects the new bilateral military bases agreement.

He cited reports of Rep. [Representative] Rolando R. Andaya (LDP [Struggle of the Filipino Democrat], Camarines Sur), House appropriations committee chairman; Rep. Jose V. Yap (LDP, Tarlac), head of the defense committee; and Acting Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, who warned of a setback in the country's defense and military posture in case of an American military pullout.

The House leaders said this raises the urgency of implementing a resolution, approved by the House, to submit the bases treaty, now being finalized by the Philippine and U.S. governments, to the people in a plebiscite before this is brought to the Senate for ratification.

Yap said this should head off the impending defeat of the treaty in the Senate, where at least 16 of 23 members have vowed to reject it, "an eventuality that preempts and transgresses the sovereign will of the people, and spawns grave consequences on the political, economic, and social stability of the countkry."

Citing statements he made at the "Talakayan ng Bayan," [Discussion of the Nation] the multi-media public affairs forum telecast nationwide on IBC TV-13 yesterday, Yap urged the people to ask the anti-bases senators to come up with proposals to raise the huge financial shortfall necessary to keep the military in fighting trim and compel them to rush this before the constitutional expiration of the bases treaty on Sept. 15.

Andaya and Yap said enactment of the budget has been delayed because of arguments in the competition for priorities for allotment of funds barely enough to pay the salaries of government workers.

"We have been hard put balancing the budget because of the scarcity of our resources," said Yap. "If the treaty is not renewed, we cannot clearly support the AFP."

The House leaders expressed elation that their counterparts in the Senate, headed by Senate President Jovito R. Salonga, are now open to discussion on the demand to convert the Senate and House into a constituent assembly to amend provisions involving the bases treaty and other infirmities of the Constitution.

Washington and U.S. embassy officials in Manila said they intend to transfer the bases from the Philippines to near-by friendly nations in case the Philippine government rejects then new bases agreement.

Yap said the House fully supports the appeal of President Aquino for the senators to ratify the treaty, whose draft was finalized by the Philippine panel led by Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus and the U.S. group, headed by special negotiator Richard Armitage, President Bush's personal representative in the negotiations.

He said rejection of the agreement by only 23 senators is, "in fact, a violation of the Constitution which clearly delegates upon the people supreme power to decide their destiny, and upon whom, first and final judgment is reposed on the future of foreign bases here."

De Villa said U.S. military assistance is twice the amount allotted by the Philippine government annually.

"Left to our own resources, we cannot sustain the Armed Forces, let alone modernize its fighting units," said De Villa at yesterday's "Talakayan [discussion]." "Modernization will ground to a halt; there will be a drastic reduction of operational and tactical capabilities, and the high-pressure campaign against the insurgents will weaken."

"What Gen. Lisandro Abadia (AFP chief of staff) is saying is true: If U.S. support is cancelled, we cannot replace this with our resources," said De Villa. "It is not enough for our soldiers to be courageous and strong in fighting spirit, they must be equipped with superior weapons which will not be there once American support is gone."

The AFP modernization program, amounting to $1.5 billion, will not materialize, he said. "Our dream for modern air defense will be in a shambles. Our naval capability to guard our long shoreline will be weakened."

Yap said Indonesia, Malaysia, and other neighboring nations are pushing well ahead in developing their air and naval forces. "They have installed their military planes and ships with missiles, while we cannot even go after smugglers operating in our shores with impunity."

He cited the need to strengthen the Philippines' military defense in the Spratly Islands being claimed by Vietnam, Taiwan, China, and Indonesia. Studies have shown the islands are rich in oil and other precious minerals.

"We have a clear right of ownership of Spratly which is located nearest to the Philippines, in comparison with the other claimant countries," Yap said. "But what do we have to defend Philippine territorial sovereignty but a handful of soldiers on one island."

De Villa confirmed a build-up of naval and air capabilities by the neighboring nations in what he warned would likely be the next "Asian flashpoint" at the Spratly group of islands.

Yap and De Villa, on the same forum, also stressed the need to restructure the AFP promotions system which, they said, is "bulging disproportionately" at the level of captains. Yap said a bill is being rushed to open the narrow bottleneck at the top of the organizational set-up and rush the upward mobility of the officers' corps.

Yap said the number of generals will be raised from 118 to 156 and the quota for majors will be increased.

He said the lack of vacancies on the major level has blocked the promotion system on the captain level. He said the lowest officer rank, second lieutenant, is automatically promoted to first lieutenant after three years on this level.

First lieutenants in turn, are elevated to capitain at which point, no rule exists on time and grade, causing a bulge at this step of the promotional ladder, Yap said.

This explains, he said, why some officers remain captain for as long as 15 years, causing widespread restiveness and dissatisfaction, Yap said. Many members of the Young Officers' Union, (YOU), a military rebel organization, are captains.

"Our bill will eliminate this promotional problem by creating more positions for majors, upward to the rank of star officers," said Yap.

Manglapus Remarks on 'Vacuum'

HK1208071691 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Aug 91 pp 1, 21

[Text] Iloilo City—Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus said yesterday that the treaty on Philippine-American cooperation will give Southeast Asian nations time to develop the political, economic, and military muscle with which to fill the vacuum to be created by the withdrawal of American troops from the region.

In a dialogue with Rotarians, civic leaders, provincial, and municipal officials and the media, Manglapus said: "Most Southeast Asian nations have military arrangements with the U.S. In the meantime, they prefer to deal with the Americans rather than with anohter military power that might fill the vacuum."

The foreign secretary said Japan is one of the potential "vacuum- fillers... since Japan has a powerful but vulnerable economy whose lifeline for fuel, raw materials, and trade extends through Southeast Asia all the way to the Persian Gulf."

To defend its economy, Japan might be forced to reconstruct her armed forces, including a new navy, he added.

Memories of World War II makes the Association of Southeast Asian (ASEAN) nations wary of a Japanese military transformation and "(Japan) would like to avoid having to do that which is why she pays the U.S. as much as $100,000 per soldier per year just to keep U.S. bases on Japanese soil," said Manglapus.

He said the new treaty also upholds Philippine sovereignty in the application of its laws to offending U.S. servicemen and in the use of the bases for combat operations.

"Furthermore, in this post Cold War period and into the 21st Century, the concept of sovereignty must be recast for a nation, no matter how strong, must now undertake regional responsibilities if it is to survive," he said.

Manglapus cited Germany, which has surrendered part of its soverignty for the sake of "One Europe 192;" the U.S. which has joined the North American Free Trade Association, and Japan, which "is desperate to belong to regional arrangements for its own national survival."

Meanwhile, Rotarians presented the foreign secretary a resolution signed by Iloilo residents supporting the new treaty and commending Manglapus for his successful handling of the negotiations.

The resolution also urged the Senators to rafify the treaty.

More on Manglapus Remarks

HK1208123291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Aug 91 p 21

[By Fred Lobo]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus yesterday allayed fears that the Philippines cannot defend itself from foreign aggression if the U.S. withdraws its military facilities from the country.

"In the first place, the American bases in the country are not intended for RP [Republic of the Philippines] defense but for the implementation of the U.S. forward deployment strategy," he said.

"In case of international conflict, the country's defense requirements would bear more heavily on the RP-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty, which is independent of the RP-U.S. bases arrangements," Manglapus said.

He pointed out that even without the U.S. base facilities in RP, the two countries are committed to assist each other in times of war, by formal agreement forged since the end of World War II.

According to Manglapus, in the unlikely event that the Senate rejects the RP-U.S. bases agreement, and the U.S. bases are subsequently withdrawn, the Mutual Defense Treaty remains effective.

The Foreign Secretary clarified that it is the use of the base facilities in RP, for U.S. military operational requirements as a world power, that the government is asking compensation.

He said it is common knowledge that the U.S. forces have used the base facilities in RP in its war efforts and military confrontations since Korea, Vietnam, until the recent Gulf crisis.

Manglapus on Government Measures

HK1208095091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Aug 91 p 23

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Iloilo City—Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus assured that the government is undertaking necessary measures that will allow the smooth withdrawal of the U.S. military facilities as the expiration of the Military Bases Agreement (MBA) on Sept. 16 nears and the approval of the new RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases treaty remains uncertain.

Although he expressed his hopes that the new bases treaty will be approved by the Senate, Manglapus said that the government is implementing diplomatic and military measures aimed at preventing a possible breakdown of the harmonious relationship between the Philippine and U.S. governments following the bases pullout.

In an interview after his speech before the Rotary Club of Iloilo-South, Manglapus said the designation of two Filipino "facility commanders" at the Clark Air Base in Angeles City and Subic Naval Base in Olongapo City over the weekend was part of the government's preparation on the possible withdrawal of American forces from the country.

Under the previous setup based on the 1978 Serrano-Bolhen agreement, both the commanding generals of the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine navy were only designated as "base commanders" of Clark and Subic, respectively.

Filipino military authorities then had no control over the two American facilities, it was learned.

Manglapus also expressed hopes that the new bases treaty will be ratified despite the reported objections of 16 senators who recently conducted as "straw vote" on the proposed agreement.

"Although a straw vote is important just like an opinion survey, the new bases treaty still needs formal debates and serious studying before it can be finally ratified," he said.

Sixteen of the 23 members of the Senate have expressed their objection to the proposed treaty because of "uncertainties" over the annual compensation package of $203 million in hard cash for the continued stay of Subic alone for another 10 years.

The proposed bases treaty needs at least two-thirds vote of the Senate to be ratified.

Survey: Cebu Supports Ratification

HK1208053791 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Aug 91 pp 1, 23

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Cebu City—A province-wide survey here shows the Cebuanos' overwhelming support for the new U.S. bases agreement, Cebu Gov Emilio Osmena told Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus following his speech before the combined Cebu Rotary clubs of Cebu last Saturday.

Manglapus, who headed the Philippine panel in the bases talks, proceeded here from Iloilo where he dialogues with local officials and civic leaders. Manglapus has embarked on a nationwide campaign to inform the public about the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security between the Philippines and the United States which has yet to be approved by the Senate.

Earlier, Iloilo Gov Simplicio Grino informed Manglapus of a similar survey in his province indicating wide acceptance of the proposed treaty.

Businessmen were pleased at the prospects of the signing of the treaty, Manglapus told the Rotarians, while the labor sector has been informed of the steps that have been taken to protect the rights of workers and assist those who lost employment because of the Mt Pinatubo eruption which resulted in the U.S. withdrawal from Clark Air Base by next year.

"I have been assured by industrialists and traders that they are particularly pleased about the additional procurement of Philippine goods and the expected increase in export quotas and trade access," Manglapus informed the Rotarians.

He added that he had also received "favorable reaction" to the plan for the setting up of a $2-billion Regional Cooperation Fund which could be directed first "to the rehabilitation of the devastated areas of Central Luzon."

Manglapus reiterated that the total worth of annual compensation in the treaty is $960 million for the first year and $773 million annually for the remaining nine years and "not just $203 million annually which is only the portion directedly appropriated by the U.S. Congress."

Official Says U.S. Favors Ramos as President

HK1108073691 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] A high official from the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] revealed that the United States is more comfortable with and favors former Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos to become the next president of the Philippines in 1992.

The official, who requested anonymity, stressed that Ramos is respected not only by the U.S. Congress but also by the U.S. Defense Department and the White House. In fact, the official said, during the 1989 coup attempt, General Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, first asked Ramos whom he sided with before the U.S. military extended support for the Aquino government forces.

Nonetheless, the DFA official did not mention whether the United States will support the candidacy of Ramos in 1992 elections. He also added that even House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. is acceptable to the United States as next Philippine president. Mitra and Ramos both expressed their favor for the extension of the U.S. military bases in the country.

On the other hand, it was learned from the official, that the credibility of Vice President Salvador Laurel to the Americans was reduced as a result of his reported support of the bloody coup d'etat in 1989. The DFA official further revealed that the United States is uncomfortable with Senate President Jovito Salonga, Senators Juan Ponce Enrile and Joseph Estrada, but did not elaborate anymore on the reasons.

Taiwan Withdraws Technical, Financial Assistance

HK1208133691 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Taiwan has finally withdrawn its technical and financial assistance to the Philippines amid the issue of the Republic of the Philippines-Taiwan fishing agreement. This was stated by Agriculture Under Secretary Benito Bengzon, in an interview with Radio Patrol [ABS-CBN mobile radio unit]. According to Under Secretary Bengzon, the fishing industry and rehabilitation efforts for Mt. Pinatubo victims are expected to be affected by this move. He said there is no assurance whether the agreement, which would give Taiwanese fishermen the right to fish in major Philippine waters, would be realized due to strong opposition from Congress. Radio Patrol also learned that Taiwan could no longer provide the five fishing vessel it promised to the Philippine Coast Guard for use in patrolling the country's coast. Even technical staff from the Taiwan Government have canceled their scheduled visit to the country on 7 August .

Sea Lane Agreement Clarified

HK1208100291 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Aug 91 pp 1, 20

[By Isidro Roman]

[Text] Assistant Executive Secretary Roberto Rafael V. Lucila said yesterday that the agreement on sea lanes and the memorandum on agriculture and fisheries cooperation between the Philippines and Taiwan will benefit neither Beijing nor Taipei but only "us Fiipinos."

Breaking his silence on the issue, Lucila said there is a need to explain what the document is all about if only to dispel doubts, fears, and false allegations aired by some sectors.

Lucila said he was issuing the statement after President Aquino resolved the controversy by issuing Executive Order No. 473 implementing the agreement as signed by he two governments in Taipei Last July 7. Lucila headed the Philippine panel during the signing of the agreement.

The Taipei accord is intended to forge peace in the South China Sea and defuse the tension that arose between the Philippines and Taiwan as a result of the seizure and apprehension of several Taiwan fishing vessels and their crews which threatened to disrupt Philippine trade and labor relations with Taiwan, Lucila said.

There was a need to bind the Taiwanese by means of a written agreement as regards the commitments that they proposed in exchange for the designation of the sea lanes. These commitments are in the areas of agricultural and fishing cooperation, he said.

Lucila explained that as a government official, he advocates a foreign policy that closely adheres to the constitutional mandate: "The state shall pursue an independent foreign policy, and in its relations with other states, the paramount consideration shall be national sovereignty, territorial integrity, national interest, and the right to self-determination."

He said that "under international law, all nations have the right of innocent passage, through straits that are normally used for international navigation."

"Contrary to popular belief, we did not grant by virtue of the document of July 7 any 'right of way' or the right to fish in Philippine waters to the Taiwanese because what we did was merely to delimit their right of way or right of innocent passage by requiring them to pass through the two sea lanes that we have designated, subject to the conditions that we imposed." Lucila pointed out.

While the agreement does not violate the "One-China Policy," Lucila said, the following benefits will accrue to the government and the Filipino people:

1. Development of the Port of Aparri into a fishing base port.

2. Improvement of the Regional Fishermen's Training Center in the Port of Aparri.

3. Encouragement of private sector's investment in the port of Aparri for construction of ice making, cold storage and other facilities.

4. Taining and recruitment of Filipino Fisherfolk, particularly those coming from Cagayan and Batanes.

5. Donation of five fishing vessels with gross registered tonnage ranging from 100 to 200.

6. Technical assistance for the rehabilitation of agricultural areas affected by Mt. Pinatubo eruptions.

Central Bank Notes Balance-of-Payments Surplus

HK1208114791 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 12 Aug 91 pp 1, 5

[By Gertrudes M. Chavez]

[Text] For the first five months of the year, the country posted a balance of payments [BOP] surplus of $733 million due to substantial inflows of loans and foreign investments including higher remittances from tourism and services, Central Bank [CB] data show.

The current BOP level was a marked turnaround from the $91 million deficit registered in the same period last year. The CB stressed that without rescheduling, a lower BOP surplus of $234 million would have been realized.

Net inflows under the non-monetary capital account (medium/long- term loans and foreign investments) grew fourfold to $1.12 billion. The MLT [medium and long term] loan account expanded with net inflows of $384 million, a stark deviation from the $403 million outflow recorded a year ago.

However, the country's MLT loan availments dropped 36.1% due to slow releases of new money and pipeline loans including the decline in the amount of rescheduled debt. The infusion of new money and inflow of pipeline loans were cut to $710 million as the delay in the releases of loans from the World Bank offset the doubling of loans provided by the Tokyo government.

Further, commercial banks die not provide any new money during the period compared to the $453 million released last year. This represented the first tranche of new money from commercial banks under a financing package negotiated in 1989.

The amount of rescheduled debt also went down by 35.5% to $499 million, roughly ⅔ of which is owed to foreign commercial banks and the remainder to the Paris Club. Repayment of MLT loans dropped sharply to $916 million during the period from $2.43 billion recorded last year.

INVESTMENTS

Foreign investments grew 47.2% to $284 million due to the reduction in the amount of foreign capital leaving the country. Capital flight was reduced to $27 million as of May from $114 million last year.

Short-term capital, meanwhile, posted higher net inflows of $267 million because of higher net availments of advances for exports.

While revaluation gains recorded shortfalls compared to last year's level which included the discounts earned under the cash buyback included in January last year.

Apart from the nonmonetary capital account, what further bolstered the country's BOP position was a marked improvement in the current account (trade, nontrade, and transfers transactions) sector. The current account deficit was reduced by 39.4% to $619 million. For the month of May alone, a $48-million surplus was recorded from a deficit of $1128 million in the same month last year.

TRADE

The nonmerchandise trade gap for the first five months was trimmed to $1.53 billion from $1.58 billion last year as exports grew nearly three times that of imports. At $3.4 billion, exports slightly grew by 4.2%, still lower than the 5.4% growth recorded in 1990.

The increase in exports was attributed mainly to electronics which posted a gain of $103 million because of sustained global demand for transistors, microcircuits and semi-conductor devices.

Gains were likewise realized from shrimps and prawns, chemicals, machinery and transport equipment, and petroleum products as demand for these commodities increased.

Imports, on the other hand, rose slightly by 1.6% to $4.93 billion. The import growth was, however, much lower this year compared to 1990's 20.1% increase. The reduction was mainly a result of the 9% import surcharge which dampened demand for capital and consumer goods. The rise in imports was traced to raw materials and intermediate goods as well as mineral fuels and lubricants which grew by 3.4% and 12.8%, respectively.

Nonmerchandise trade surplus almost doubled to $523 million as the increase in service receipts was accompanied by lower invisible payments. Receipts advanced by 9.4% principally on account of higher withdrawals in pesos of deposits and increased income from tourism and overseas contract workers' remittances. This more than offset the shortfall in earnings from commissions and fees (by $47 million) and freight and merchandise insurance ($20 million)

In contrast, the drop in invisible disbursements by 2.5% followed by the substantial reduction in interest payments on foreign debts as well as payments of profits, earnings and dividents earned by foreign investors.

Net inward transfers rose 38% than the previous level with bigger inflows from personal remittances, voluntary relief agencies and the U.S. government.

Grenades Kill 2 Foreign Missionaries, Injure 35

HK1208124191 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Aug 91 p 3

[By Mila Velasquez]

[Text] Zamboanga City—Police operatives blamed out-of-town terrorists for the bombing here Saturday night that killed two foreign missionaries and injured at least 35 others during a farewell cultural show.

Killed were Sofia Switnitson of Sweden and Karen Goodsworthy of New Zealand, both 19. The two were among the 50 foreign ground [as published] entertainers of MV Doulos, described as the world's largest floating bookshop, who staged a cultural show at the Philippine Port Authority [PPA] terminal building just a few meters from where the ship would dock.

Two of the three apple-type grenades hurled at the centerstage exploded while Jackel Thomas, assistant director for operations, was about to deliver his closing remarks, police said. One grenade sank to the sea and did not explode.

Col. Carlos Pena, Metrodiscom [Metropolitan District Command] commander, said the bombing could be the work of out-of-town terrorists who were out to paint a bad image for the city.

Initial investigation showed that Muslims here felt offended when the missionaries conducted evangelism work in several schools and colleges.

Ibno Lakibol, a Muslim law student, said that some Muslims misundertood the mission as anti-Islamic.

But other Muslim leaders said the bombing could be the work of local sympathizers of Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn who mistook the missionaries for Americans.

"They attacked a foreign group with the hope of getting international attention," he added.

City Mayor Vitaliano Agan blamed the military for the incident, saying they should have provided adequates security and protection to the foreigners.

Agan, however, admitted that security inside the port area is the responsibility of the PPA guards and the Coast Guard.

The ship's captain Merisalo Pertti said MV Doulos was on its third stop in the country after successful calls on the ports of Pueno Princesa in Palawan and Cagayan de Oro City.

The ship's first visit to Zamboanga was in 1988.

MV Doulos carrying 330 crew-members arrived in Zamboanga port on July 30 and was scheduled to leave for Malaysia Aug. 12. About 25 Filipinos were board.

It has over 4,000 titles covering various fields of discipline.

Capt. Pertti has cancelled all booksales and programs that were scheduled to be held until Monday.

He said the ship's departure will be delayed until its 32 wounded personnel are discharged from the hospital.

Thailand

Foreign Minister Remarks on Burmese Relations

BK1008012991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Aug 91 p A1

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin yesterday informed visiting Burmese Deputy Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw that Thailand now wanted to "communicate directly, sincerely and frankly" with Burma but the move should not be taken as a desire to interfere in Burmese domestic affairs.

The message was conveyed during a luncheon hosted by Asa at the Foreign Ministry to welcome Ohn Gyaw and his delegation who are here to attend a meeting on Thai-Burmese border issues.

Speaking after the luncheon, Asa said he had told the Burmese guest: "We (Thailand) would like to communicate (with Burma) truly, as friends and please do not consider that an interference in your internal affairs."

The statement was the first by the interim government on Burma since Thailand and other ASEAN members came under fire from Western countries for their dealings with the Burmese military.

"ASEAN considers Burma one of the most important countries of Southeast Asia and a key element in peace and stability in the region ... (but) this does not mean we will accept whatever happens in Burma as the right thing," Asa told reporters after the meeting.

But the Thai minister stressed that his statement only dealt with joint communication and did not include any other "suggestions".

"As friends we should know each other's thinking and we should be at hand to assist one another," Asa said he told the visiting minister.

Previously the administration and the previous toppled Chatchai government had shied away from talking to Burma about political issues, arguing that it did not want to infringe on the neighbouring country's internal affairs.

Asa said there was "frank talk" during yesterday's discussion and that he had informed Ohn Gyaw of last month's ASEAN ministerial meeting in Kuala Lumpur at which Burma had been a contentious topic. ASEAN's Western dialogue partners took ASEAN to task for not putting pressure on the Burmese regime to improve its political- and human-rights record.

Asa said he briefed Ohn Gyaw extensively on how ASEAN's dialogue partners, especially the European Community and the United States, viewed the situation in Burma and their attitudes towards the ruling administration in Rangoon.

Ohn Gyaw in turn told the foreign minister of plans to convene a national convention in Burma in order to draft a constitution, Asa said.

The foreign minister told reporters that Thailand wanted to continue a policy of "constructive engagement" with Burma, adding that he believed that isolation of the country "will not bring about any change there".

But Asa said he also warned the visiting deputy foreign minister that the issue of Burma would probably be raised at the UN General Assembly when it convenes in September.

At the UN last year Sweden tabled a draft resolution calling for a halt to human-rights violations in Burma and for the outcome of the general elections of May 1990, in which the ruling military junta was roundly defeated, to be respected. The issue was deferred to this year and is expected to provoke contentious debate in the General Assembly.

Both Asa and Ohn Gyaw mentioned that Philippines Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus would visit Burma soon but as a representative of the Philippines, not of ASEAN as earlier reported.

Ohn Gyaw did not mention if Manglapus' itinerary had been finalized but said that Burma had no objection to the visit as long as the foreign minister came in the capacity of a minister from the Philippines.

Commenting on the United State's recent decision to impose sanctions on Burmese textile imports to protest that country's human rights violations, Ohn Gyaw argued that the move was not a sanction at all because the US had decided not to renew Burma's textile quota after it ran out in 1989. He said that in any case the move would not have any impact on Burma's economy.

Asked if he saw the possibility of other Western countries following the US lead on sanctions, the deputy foreign minister simply said: "Burma is following the five principles of peaceful coexsistence and what we do not do to other countries, we would like them not to do to us. What they do is their own problem."

He rejected international reports of widespread human rights abuses in Burma as the "wrong perception".

"People are commenting on our internal affairs without actual knowing what is happening in my country," he claimed.

Agriculture Minister Cancels Trip to Burma

BK1208011991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Aug 91 p B1

[Text] Agriculture Minister Anat Aphaphirom has postponed his planned trip to Burma indefinitely, reportedly because of increasing international political and economic pressure on the Burmese military junta.

Anat said he initially accepted an invitation from Lt Gen Chit Swe, Burmese Minister of Agriculture and Forests, to visit Rangoon from Aug 15-17 to explore the possibility of investment in forestry- related industries there.

He was to lead a group of top executives of the Forest Industry Organization and officials from the Forestry Department to hold talks with Burmese state forestry enterprises about possible cooperation in logging and wood processing.

Sources in the Agriculture Ministry said that Anat postponed his trip because political pressure from the international community on Burma is escalating.

US Secretary of State James Baker and like-minded ministers from the European Community, during the ASEAN Post Ministerial Meeting in Kuala Lumpur late last month, openly criticized ASEAN for continuing to do business with the Burmese military rulers despite their violent suppression of dissidents.

Well-informed sources said Anat dropped the proposed trip after consultations with a fellow cabinet minister.

According to another government source, the Thai government wanted to limit the level of contact with Burma to that of a deputy minister. The policy was a continuation of that of ex-Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

He dismissed the suggestion that Anat's sudden postponement of the visit to Burma was because Thailand was sensitive to ongoing worldwide protest to continued political oppression in Burma.

Anat informed Chit Swe in a letter sent on Friday that he had to attend Cabinet meetings because crucial agricultural bills will be debated by the Cabinet and later by the National Legislative Assembly in the middle of this month, said a source.

At present, some 30 Thai companies are felling trees in Burma under government concessions. The Forest Industry Organization (FIO), a state forestry firm, was the only company to be allowed to log wood in the border area opposite Prachuap Khiri Khan since 1989. Its concession expired just two months ago.

Col MR Adundet Chakraphan, FIO director, said his agency has already made a formal request in writing to the Burmese Ministry of Agriculture and Forests for renewal of the logging concession. He is waiting for an answer from the Burmese government, he said. Adundet would have been one of the members of Anat's now-postponed mission.

In an interview with THE NATION before the trip was called off, Adundet said he expected the ministers to discuss the framework for investment in forestry-related industries. Details of the agreement would have to be worked out by officials of both countries at a later stage, he added.

However, the FIO expected that the same form of joint venture investment in fisheries would apply. Under this arrangement, a Thai fisheries company was set up to undertake investment in fishing and food processing industries with Myanmar Fisheries Enterprise.

Adundet said he would like Myanmar Timber Enterprise to identify concession areas and provide security to authorized Thai companies felling trees on its territory. The FIO, on the other hand, would select local companies to log and process wood there. The central firm, which would be set up, would charge a certain percentage as a commission fee.

When Sanan Kachonprasat was Agriculture Minister, he had invited Chit Swe to visit Thailand and raised the proposal of having the FIO enter into a series of joint venture agreements with the Burmese counterpart. However, little progress was reported.

Winai Suprungruang, FIO deputy director, said in a separate talk that he expected the concession to be renewed. The joint investment between the two countries should be based on mutual benefits.

Official Remarks on Burma's Stance on Fishing

BK1008095391 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Myanmar [Burma] officials have showned good faith and sincerity in solving the problems between Thailand and Myanmar concerning fishing, according to Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives At Taolanon, who led a delegation to Myanmar earlier this month. Mr At observed that Thailand and Myanmar needed to cooperate closely in the area of fishing on the basis of fairness and equitable profits. Myanmar has agreed to be flexible and to show leniency to Thai fishermen. He was impressed by the show of goodwill and friendliness of the Myanmar officials.

The minister also met members of the private sector in Myanmar to discuss joint fishing venture. He was confident that Thailand and Myanmar could cooperate fruitfully in fishery, provided that straightforward dealing in good faith is used with neither side taking advantage of the other. Private companies of both countries have already signed an agreement on joint investment in fishery, Mr. At pointed out that both he himself and the Myanmar agriculture and fishery minister witnessed the signing of the agreement.

Commerce Ministry To Send 3 Missions to U.S.

BK1208011791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Aug 91 p 17

[Text] The Commerce Ministry is to send three trade missions to the United States and other trading partners to thrash out bilateral trade problems and enhance trade relationships in an effort to boost Thailand's exports.

A highly-placed source in the ministry said the first delegation would be sent to the US to hold talks with trade officials at the Thai-US Joint Commercial Committee (JCC) meeting early next month.

The meeting would be the first since the committee was set up by ex-premier Gen Chatchai Chunhawan during a visit to the US last year.

The source said Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on would head the ministerial-level mission on negotiations with the US Secretary of the Commerce Department, Robert Mosbacher, and the US Secretary of Agriculture Department, Edward Madigan.

He said Foreign Trade Department Director-General Charae Chutharattanakun would lead another official-level mission.

He said talks would concentrate on the trade barriers that effected Thailand's exports to the US such as countervailing duty, anti-dumping duty, export subsidy and P.L. 480 law.

The US requirement of environmental development such as water pollution control and chemical use by Thai manufacturers would also be discussed at the meeting.

The source said the Board of Investment and the private sector through the Board of Trade (BoT) and the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) would be allowed to join the mission as part of the Government's policy to promote Thai investment overseas.

He said a variety of Thai industries including textiles, ceramics and canned seafood were already operating in the US while jewelry was a potential industry for the country.

The source said the second mission led by Mr Charae would hold talks with Australian authorities between September 17-18.

He said discussions would involve the revision of trade policy especially the high import tariffs on Thai products and other trade barriers.

The source said the third mission led by Deputy Commerce Minister MR Pridiyathon Thewakun would be sent to Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary from September 25 to October 5, as Eastern European countries were potential markets for Thai products such as household electrical appliances, textiles and farm products.

He said these countries could also supply Thailand with capital goods and raw material products such as machinery, steel, chemical and fertiliser.

Thailand had the opportunity to invest in Eastern European countries, especially in the textile industry, for possible export to the European Community (EC).

The Eastern Bloc, which was currently restructuring its economy to lure more foreign investment through an improved financial system, was changing its market pattern and amending its legislations.

Iraq Agrees to Thai Rice Export Proposal

BK1208012191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Aug 91 p 18

[Text] Iraq has agreed to a proposal by Thailand's major rice exporters to change its purchasing option for 645,000 tons of rice by allowing part of the shipment to come from other suppliers if necessary.

The agreement was reached last week between representatives of nine major rice exporters, Chaiyaphon Rice managing-director Phaibun Khuansongtram and officials from the Grain Board of Iraq in Amman, Jordan.

An informed source from the group of rice exporters said the new option would safeguard exporters in securing the giant rice deal.

The source said that after the 645,000-ton rice deal with Iraq was concluded last month, domestic rice prices had risen sharply because of high speculation in the local market.

The nine exporters wanted the option of shipping some rice from other suppliers in case they failed to obtain enough Thai rice.

Although the Iraqi Government had agreed to this, it might not be necessary as there had been a sudden drop in domestic rice prices.

"We still have a priority to ship Thai rice, but the option will help us to avoid heavy losses because of high domestic rice prices, which were created by some rice traders and millers," he said.

The nine rice exporters are Chaiyaphon Rice, Sun Hua Seng, Capital Rice, Hong Yea Seng, Siam Rice Trading, Seng Thong Rice, Huai Chuan Rice, Puai Heng Long and Kit Pon.

Under the agreement, Thailand has shipped 45,000 tons of 15 percent white rice to Iraq. But a further shipment of 200,000 tons is still pending because the United Nations is not allowing the Iraq Government to use its money to pay for the rice.

The money has been frozen by American commercial banks.

Two Vietnamese Boats Seized in Thai Waters

BK1208011591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] Songkhla—Two Vietnamese boats with 22 crew were seized by a Thai Navy patrol boat inside Thai territorial waters about 150 miles off this coastal province.

Rear Adm Manu Sriwirot of the Songkhla Naval Station said the patrol boat Takbai intercepted the Vietnamese boats about 5 p.m.

When approached, the Vietnamese crew were seen to throw three AK- 47 rifles into the sea.

Many articles believed to have been stolen from Thai fishing boats were found in the two boats, he said.

The boats and their crew will be taken ashore at Songkhla today.

Envoy to SRV Reveals 846 Fishermen in Jail

BK1208011191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] A total of 846 Thai fishermen are serving jail sentences in southern Vietnam ranging from seven months to four years, Thai Ambassador to Hanoi Suraphong Chayanan revealed yesterday.

Mr Suraphong said Vietnamese authorities recently released a report on the number of Thai fishermen serving prison sentences for violating its territorial waters.

The ambassador said the report was submitted following a recent request by Thailand for information on the "exact number" of fishermen and fishing trawlers currently detained by Vietnam.

In the report, Hanoi claimed that by the end of June it had seized 48 trawlers and 846 fishermen who were serving jail terms ranging from seven months to four years in the southern provinces of Kien Ging and Minh Hai.

Mr Suraphong applauded Vietnam's response to the Thai request for "exact information" but said he still wanted to know the names of crewmen and the trawlers.

The ambassador said it was unfair for the Thai Government to have to set aside a budget to pay for the crewmen's ransom because Thailand had no policy of allowing fishermen to violate the territorial waters of any country.

The burden of ransom-payments has so far been the responsibility of the Government. Trawler owners have yet to cooperate.

A solution to the fisheries problem may be speeded up when Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin visits Vietnam soon, he said.

The ambassador said Thailand and Vietnam would complete a draft agreement to establish a joint fisheries commission next month.

Minister Plans Southern Trip To Reassure Muslims

BK1208005791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Aug 91 p A2

[Text] Interior Minister Itsaraphong Nunphakdi said yesterday he did not believe that the detention of Shi'ite Muslim leader Sorayut Sakhunasantisat in connection with the Kruze mosque unrest in Pattani in 1989 would create religious tension.

But Itsaraphong, who is also deputy army commander in chief, said he would visit the lower South soon following complaints by Buddhist teachers that Sorayut's arrest made them more concerned about their own safety. He refused to say when his southern visit would actually take place.

Itsaraphong said he had instructed the Fourth Army Region and southern provincial governors to ensure that Buddhist teachers, who were often the targets of Muslim terrorists' harassment, were well protected.

Teachers from the five southernmost provinces agreed on Saturday to seek special protection from the government and the army, saying they feared being captured hostage by Muslim radicals angered by Sorayut's arrest.

Sorayut was repatriated from Malaysia last Thursday to face charges of inciting unrest and lese majeste after being captured in the neighbouring country for illegal entry.

Sorayut and eight other Shi'ite leaders allegedly made defamatory statements against the monarchy during the rally in October 1989 at the Kruze Mosque. Protesters demanded during the demonstration that they be allowed to worship at the mosque, which had been turned into a historic site by the Fine Arts Department.

Sorayut was alleged to have incited the unrest, during which angry Shi'ite protesters attacked passing cars. Two police officers were injured in the incident.

Itsaraphong said Sorayut's arrest should not be considered a religious matter.

"This doesn't concern religion. I have been emphasizing this all along," he said.

Sorayut was being treated as a Thai who had broken Thai law, Itsaraphong said.

"There is no conflict between Buddhism and Islam. People of the two religions respect each other. We must separate them (Sorayut's case and religion), otherwise people who break the law will not be punished," the minister said.

Asked about the southern teachers' concerns, Itsaraphong said: "I have asked the Fourth Army Region commander and the governors of all 14 southern provinces, especially the five southernmost provinces, to ensure protection for teachers."

Thian Witritthirong, president of the teachers' federation in Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat, Satun and Songkhla, said on Saturday that many Thai Muslims in the lower South had expressed strong sympathy for the suspect.

The teachers were afraid they might be abducted by radical Muslims to demand the release of the suspect, he said.

Thian said his teachers' federation has received reports about suspicious activities among Muslim radicals in the five southernmost provinces. Some teachers, he said, were so afraid that they had fled their homes.

Teacher groups played a key role in demanding legal action against Sorayut after the Kruze mosque incident.

After his repatriation, Sorayut told investigators he did not intend to stir up turmoil but admitted his emotional remarks might have contributed partly to the unrest.

He was also quoted by Pol [Police] Maj Gen Kasem Saengmit, deputy commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau, as saying his allegedly lese majeste remarks were just the result of a slip of the tongue.

"He said he got carried away and actually did not intend to insult the monarchy," said Pol Maj Gen Kasem.

So far police have arrested three Muslim leaders alleged to have collaborated with Sorayut in the unrest. Five more Muslims wanted in the case are still at large.

Pol Maj Gen Kasem said Sorayut was very "cooperative" in the investigation.

"He regretted what he had said, which led to the uncontrollable event," the officer said.

The chief of the National Security Council, Suwit Suthanukun, meanwhile, said Thai authorities were "keeping a constant watch" on radical groups in the lower South.

He said those responsible for the mosque unrest "were scattered" after the incident, but the authorities have not ruled out the possibility of "opportunists" exploiting the sensitivity of the issue.

Sunthon To Retain NPKC Chairmanship

BK1008083191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Aug 91 p 3

[Text] Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong will retain the chairmanship of the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] after his retirement as supreme commander at the end of September, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Kraphrayun said yesterday.

Gen Suchinda said Gen Sunthon still had a lot to offer the country as chairman of the NPKC.

The army chief also reaffirmed that he himself would not retire prematurely from military service.

"I only said that I would not remain as army chief until the day of my retirement," he said.

Gen Suchinda said he had no right to appoint a successor.

"It has to follow the procedure. If I said I want this or that man and he would't accept it, then what should I do?" he asked.

Gen Suchinda's brother-in-law, Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, currently the deputy army chief, is next in line to succeed Gen Suchinda.

Former Ministers Declared 'Unusually Rich'

BK1108005091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Aug 91 p 1, 3

[Text] Former foreign minister Subin Pinkayan and former deputy commerce minister Phinya Chuaiplot were yesterday declared "unusually rich" by the Assets Examination Committee.

They were the 12th and 13th politicians suspected of accumulating excessive wealth.

Committee chairman Gen Sitthi Chirarot said the committee spent four-and-a-half hours considering reports on the two former minister of the Social Action Party before ruling.

People having property connected with the two men must report to the committee within 15 days.

Both Mr Subin and Mr Phinya still have a chance to clear their names with the committee by explaining the source of their alleged extra wealth, Gen Sitthi said.

He said the nine-member committee was split on the decision against Mr Subin, with a majority voting to name him. The decision on Mr Phinya was unanimous.

Gen Sitthi said the committee expects to make its ruling soon on the two remaining ex-ministers under investigation. They are former agriculture minister Maj-Gen Sanan Khachonprasat and former deputy agriculture minister Udomsak Thangthong.

The sub-committee working on Mr Subin's assets could not establish the source of a large number of stocks in his possession, according to earlier reports.

Asked if the committee's ruling on Mr Subin would affect the Securities Exchange of Thailand's [SET] stock trading, Gen Sitthi said:

"The SET is normally sensitive even over a small matter. I don't know whether or not the ruling will have any effect on the stock market."

Meanwhile, Mr Subin, the former deputy leader of the Social Action party, said he is sad to hear the ruling but he is ready to clear his name. He is not worried by the ruling as he knows what he has done.

Mr Subin, who was commerce minister before taking the post of foreign minister in the Chatchai Chunhawan government, denied any knowledge of allegations he has a large number of stocks.

He said he does not know who holds the shares and for what companies because he has never bought shares or held shares in the stock market, nor has his wife.

Mr Subin said the committee should have summoned him to explain before declaring him unusually wealthy, adding the ruling will certainly affect him politically.

"I am a native of Chiang Mai and have been elected three times to parliament. The ruling will make the people of Chiang Mai believe that I am corrupt. I will have to explain the facts to them," he said.

Since he left the SAP [Social Action Party] before the National Peace-keeping Council overthrew the Chatchai government and he no longer belongs to any party, the ruling should have nothing to do with the SAP, Mr Subin said.

He is still undecided whether or not to stay in politics or to return to being a full-time engineer.

After his assets were frozen, Mr Subin worked as an engineer for a company and has contacted three universities in the United States to study administration.

But he will not go to study until he feels better and the universities accept him.

"I have felt uneasy, particularly today (yesterday), not knowing what the ruling would be. I would like to suspend my political activities temporarily."

Mr Subin said he will continue to visit former SAP leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot as usual.

Mr Pinya said in Surat Thani Province last night that he was frightened after learning that the committee had declared him "unusually wealthy."

Mr Phinya said he would hold a press conference at his Lat Phrao residence in Bangkok at 3 p.m. today.

He said he would release all facts to the press about the source of his assets which were frozen by the committee.

He also said he was confident that he would be able to submit docuemnts proving the original sources of his assets.

The former commerce deputy minister flew from his home town in the southern province to Bangkok yesterday afternoon.

Article Views Draft for Agricultural Council

BK1108015491 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Aug 91 p B3

[Editorial: "An Agricultural Council for Whose Interest?"]

[Text] Critics are reacting in two ways to the latest draft for setting up a tripartite Agricultural Council representing the government, business and farmers.

Some concede that the Agriculture Ministry may have tried to take account of earlier criticisms. Others bluntly accuse Deputy Agriculture Minister At Taolanon and his Charoen Phokphan [CP] Group advisers of trying to sneak objectionable clauses back into the draft.

Dr At, who was previously executive vice president of CP, argues that the critics don't understand. Everyone agrees about the objectives, At says. The differences arise, he explains, because of different interpretations of the draft's wording.

In fact, the debate is more complicated than At suggests. There are four related core questions. How should farmers be represented? What kind of forum should there be for farmers, agribusiness and the government to discuss policy? What powers should such a forum have? Is agribusiness a threat to Thai farmers?

Prime Minister Anan Panyarahun has repeatedly said that if people want democracy they have to fight for it. They cannot expect it to be handed down to them from above, Anan argues, and in a sense he is right.

The farmers who demonstrated at Government House on Tuesday were doing just what Anan says they should. They, and the academics and voluntary workers who support them, argue that they should have their own self-governing organization.

Even at the best of times, farmers' attempts to set up their own organizations have been treated with the utmost suspicion by the security forces and law and order agencies. In the 1970s farmers' leaders, particularly in the North, were victims of assassination squads.

In fact, questions can be asked about the ability of naturally distrustful farmers to build a nationwide organization, and whether in some areas the local branches might become dominated by Jao Pho. Existing government-created organizations have been shown to be susceptible to "influence".

But the seeds of self-government do exist in the various state- sponsored farmers' groups, and if the farmers want to organize, it is their right. It is up to them to work out the form of organization that best represents their interests. No one has suggested that the armed forces should be scrapped just because top officiers hob-nob with the country's elite godfathers.

In this respect the government can help the farmers by encouraging participation at the local level. This will eventually help create a storng national-level organization. But sadly Anan and his ministers have shown no interest in creating local-level democracy.

In their objections to the proposed Agriculture Council, the farmers are looking at the Federation of Thai Industries, the Board of Trade and the chambers of commerce as their models.

Here, one of the problems is actually linguistic. These bodies are all called in Thai "saphaa," normally translated as "council." If there is to be an agricultural saphaa, then it should be as independent and self-governing as the other two industral and trade bodies, the protesting farmers says.

Dr Amma Siamwanla, one of the three members of the working group redrafting the farm council bill, agrees that the farmers should have their own body and accepts that the use of the word saphaa in the bill is dangerous. If the bill becomes law, then the farmers could not call any self-governing body of their own by this word.

Logically, however, there does not seem to be any reason why a self-governing farmers' organization should not be called a "union" (sahaphaap) or a "federation" (saphaphan), and still be effective.

What the farmers' lobby would like to see is an independent farmers' organization created first. This would then be able to deal with other private sector and government organizations through a forum equivalent to the Joint Public-Private Sector Coordinating Committee. It is an attractive idea, even though some years might need to pass before the farmers' organizations are sufficiently strong.

In the meantime, there is a need for consultation on agricultural policy, and some kind of forum that includes farmers' representatives should be set up—call it a commission or committee or whatever.

Speaking to farmers and non-governmental volunteer organizations on Monday, Ammar, who is president of the Thailand Development Research Institute, confessed that there is difficulty in identifying who the farmers' genuine representatives are right now.

The Agriculture Ministry wants to appoint farmers representatives itself, and has come under fire because this means arbitrary power. It has to be said that the latest draft tries to accommodate these concerns by requiring the ministry to "try ... as far as possible" to appoint farmers "representing, equally, differnt types of agriculture." The selection process should "be through farmers' institutions or farmers' associations, taking into account representation at the local level as well", the draft says. But there is no means of prosecuting the ministry if it fails to follow these criteria.

Therefore, it is even more important that the tripartite body should not be given the sweeping powers that appear to have been written into the latest draft. Lawyers like to write the law in such a way as to keep all options open, but this can be dangerous because it leads to abuses. The tripartite body should be no more than advisory.

Well-written laws should also limit government powers. The academics are correct to say that powers to tax agricultural exports and to use the money in a way that by-passes the regular budgetary system should be outlawed once and for all. Agriculture has been penalized for far too long in the interests of industry and urban consumers.

That means that the new law should specifically repeal the Farmers Aid Fund Act and all similar existing legislation and should prevent the revival of such measures.

If that happens, the accusations that the government is serving big business would be weakened.

But the government will also have to be more careful in its selection of personnel. The role of Charoen Phokphand in Thai politics and agriculture has aroused justifiable concern. Anan should have thought twice about appointing At, and At should have thought at least six times before appoiting CP staff as his advisers—and then rejected the notion. This government is supposed to be a model of propriety, not a breeding ground for conflicts of interest.

Ministry To Change Village Chief Election System

BK1208004191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Aug 91 p A1

[Text] The interior minister yesterday vowed to go ahead with a plan to end villages' right to directly elect their village leaders despite threats by local administrators to launch a nationwide protest.

Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi said the Local Administration Department (LAD) would not review the plan, which would install a complicated system for choosing new village headmen to replace the current direct election of headmen.

Under the LAD-proposed system favoured by Itsaraphong, villages would propose three candidates and the district committee another three. The district chief would then choose a village headman from the six candidates and seek the provincial governor's approval for his appointment.

The village headmen elected under the proposed system would hold their office only five years instead of until their death or retirement as is the current practice.

Itsaraphong plans to submit the proposal, an amendment to the Local Administrative Act of BE 2457 (1914), to the Cabinet early next month.

The proposed amendment is expected to be met by a series of simultaneous demonstrations by village headmen and kamnan around the country. Kamnan are leaders of tambon, a larger administrative zone, who are chosen by village leaders in the zone.

Many of the local administrators plan to resign en masse in the event that the amendment becomes law, some of the them said after attending a ceremony at the Royal Plaza to mark the Kamnan-Village Headman Day on Saturday.

Itsaraphong seemed unperturbed by the threat of mass resignations, saying it was "democratic" for village headmen and kamnan to resign or send letters of protest to him.

"But they eventually have to comply with the new legislation if it is passed," Itsaraphong said.

The minister, who on Saturday urged the dissenting village headmen and kamnan to drop their plans to stage a nationwide protest, claimed that the new system of choosing village headmen would be democratic.

He also pointed out to them that the system would only affect new local administrators and would not be enforced retroactively.

But the local officials said on Saturday that most of them were opposed to the plan for fear that politicians would exploit the frequent changes at the local level to put their men at the top posts in villages and tambons.

Critics said the proposed system would give much more influence to provincial governors and thus the interior minister.

The LAD said the proposed system was necessary to get rid of vote-buying in the local elections.

Itsaraphong adopted the proposal and defended it against criticism despite his repeated claims that a nationwide campaign to educate villagers about democracy and fight vote-buying had been "successful".

Itsaraphong has argued that village headmen should be appointed because they are not legislators but administrators who have to depend on the government budget.

"If each village had its own money to pay for administrative work, it would be alright for village headmen to be elected," Itsaraphong said on Saturday.

Suchinda Delivers Speech for Queen's Birthday

BK1208090191 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0045 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Speech by Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun at a Bangkok ceremony on 12 August to mark the queen's 59th birthday—live]

[Text] Your Majesty: I, General Suchinda Khraprayun, Army commander in chief, on behalf of the military, police and civilian officials, and the general public, would like to express our happiness on the occasion of another birthday of Your Majesty the Queen on 12 August. The people nationwide are happy that Your Majesty is happy and in good health, and has earned a worldwide reputation. Your majesty has been the queen of the Thai people for over 40 years. The people nationwide have witnessed and feel grateful for your kindness and your concern for the people. Your Majesty has taken pains to visit the people no matter how remote their homes are. Your Majesty has also initiated various vocational development projects to increase the income and well-being of the villagers, and has initiated projects to preserve natural resources, the environment, and Thai art and culture. The important projects include forestry and the protection of rare wildlife. In addition, Your Majesty has also established the Support of Supplementary Occupations and Related Techniques Foundation to revive traditional arts and crafts. The work of the foundation has progressed quickly and achieved results. It has helped the well-being of the people in rural areas and has preserved the valuable art and cultural heritage in all areas of Thailand forever. This is a very good fortune for the Thai people who live in the fertile land under the protection of His Majesty the King, who has ruled the country with justice and morality, accompanied by Your Majesty the Queen. Under the Chakkri Dynasty, the Thai people live in peace and happiness.

All activities that Your Majesty has diligently contributed for the happiness of the Thai people have been praised and become world-famous. Your kindness has been remembered in the hearts of Thai people of all walks of life. The Thai people are unwaveringly loyal to Your Majesty.

On this auspicious occasion of your birthday, I and all the people gathered here as well as those throughout the country, would like to take this opportunity to express our loyalty. We invoke the power of the Triple Gems [Buddha, his teachings, and Buddhist monks], all the sacred powers believed in by the Thai people, and the power of the God of Siam and all the former kings to protect Your Majesty so that Your Majesty will enjoy a long life, happiness, prosperity, and reputation, as a companion of His Majesty the King, and be the strength of all the Thai people forever.

Vietnam

Further on New Council of Ministers Chairman

Vote Tally Given

BK0908155691 Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 9—At its session today, with 426 yes votes among a total of 444 valid votes, the National Assembly elected Vo Van Kiet, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee [CPV CC] a first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, as chairman of the Council of Ministers in replacement of Do Muoi.

Mr. Do Muoi had asked the National Assembly to relieve him of his post of chairman of the Council of Ministers so that he could concentrate his efforts on his heavy responsibilities as general secretary of the Communist Party.

In his short resignation speech, Do Muoi pledged to continue, in his new post as leader of the party and a National Assembly deputy to strive for the renewal of the party's leadership toward the state organization aimed at strengthening the effect and results of state management, and guaranteeing the right of the people to mastery thus making the state really become a state of the people, by the people and for the happiness of the people.' [no open quote received]

Do Muoi's proposal was unanimously accepted by the National Assembly. Taking the floor, President Vo Chi Cong of the State Council highly valued Mr. Do Muoi's contributions and wished him many new achievements in his new post.

President Vo Chi Cong, with the consensus of the heads of the National Assembly delegations, then introduced Vo Van Kiet for the election to the chairmanship of the Council of Ministers in replacement of Mr. Do Muoi.

A number of deputies also introduced Mr. Phan Van Khai, Politburo member of the C.P.V. C.C., chairman of the State Planning Commission, as candidate to the post. But Mr. Phan Van Khai asked to drop out of the election.

Acceptance Speech Given

BK1008150091 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 10—The newly elected chariman of the Council of Ministers, Vo Van Kiet, today told the Vietnamese National Assembly that one of the major tasks the council has to address immediately is to step up the building of a law-governing state and making the state become really one of the people.

In his address to the National Assembly plenary session after his election as chairman of the Council of Ministers in replacement of Do Muoi who is now general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Vo Van Kiet said that in the immediate future, the administrative system must be gradually reformed in order to build a strong state managerial mechanism from the central to the grassroots, thus meeting the needs of the new mechanism.

He went on: "It is necessary to develop the multisector market economy in diversified forms of ownership to release and bring into full play the potentials of each individual, each collective and the whole society under state management and in the socialist orientation. We must make the best use of domestic resources and seize all opportunities to draw in all resources from abroad in order to overcome immedite difficulties and create favourbale conditions for a new stride forward in the time to come." Vo Van Kiet said that the promulgation of an appropriate set of laws and policies will create the legal conditions for the people to promote their abilities to improve their own lot as well as the economic situatin of the country. At the same time, a tough struggle must be waged against disorder, indiscipline and nonobservance of law, he said.

Vo Van Kiet vowed that the Council of Ministers under his leadership will increase the fight against bureaucratism and corruption which are still prevalent in the whole country.

He went on: "To create favourable conditions for socioeconomic development, we shall, now as in the past, persist in our policy of independence and sovereignty while diversifying and promoting our relations of cooperation with all countries and international organizations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Vietnam shares the same interests with other countries in the region. Therefore, we are particularly concerned to broaden our relations with neighbouring and other countries in the region and to strive for a new South-east Asia of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation."

The chairman then called upon the entire people to give more thought to president Ho Chi Minh's policy of national unity and mobilizing the strength of the entire people to build a prosperous and strong Vietnam.

News Conference Held 10 Aug

BK1108125191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Report on news conference of Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet by station correspondent at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi on 10 August—partially recorded]

[Text] Dear friends, yesterday afternoon, 10 August, at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi, Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, held a news conference with mass media agencies from home and abroad, representatives of foreign embassies in Hanoi, and a large group of newsmen representing foreign and Vietnamese news agencies.

After an introduction made by Comrade Phan Quang, member of the National Assembly Secretariat, Comrade Vo Van Kiet presented more issues of keen interest to public opinion at the current ninth session of the Eighth National Assembly. He said:

[Begin Vo Van Kiet recording] I would like to thank comrades and friends who have been closely monitoring the activities of the ninth session of the Eight National Assembly. This session of our National Assembly dissussed a number of very important issues. As a result, this session is of great significance to the nation. Most importantly, the National Assembly was held after the recent Seventh CPV Congress. The National Assembly discussed the draft amendments to the 1980 SRV Constitution, the renovation line set by the Sixth CPV Congress, and other issues relating to the institutionalization of CPV policies. [end recording]

Dear friends, at this news conference, newsmen from both home and abroad asked many questions concerning the present socioeconomic situation in Vietnam and the pressing issues in the days ahead; Comrade Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet answered all these questions. Regarding the cabinet reshuffle that has just been adopted by the National Assembly, the chairman stressed that the newly elected comrades are those who used to supervise economic and managerial work in various agencies of the state and the Council of Ministers. He said that these are competent comrades who have vast experience in implementing the renovation policies of the Sixth and Seventh CPV Congresses, and that the reshuffle is a normal change with no definite or special reason.

Answering questions on presssing issues of the socioeconomic development policy, Comrade Vo Van Kiet said the immediate task was now to satisfactorily fulfill the 1991 state plan and make preparations for the 1991-95 period in an advance toward the year 2000, as mentioned in the economic strategy set forth by the Seventh CPV Congress. Comrade Vo Van Kiet stressed numerous difficulties faced by Vietnam in implementing the socioeconomic development program.

Asked by a REUTER correspondent on what Vietnam would do while facing numerous difficulties and the continued trade embargo by the United States, Chairman Vo Van Kiet said:

[Begin recording] The international situation will be one of the last reports to be presented at the National Assembly. Generally speaking, [words indistinct] and the very complicated developments in the international situation. However, as you say, we are facing numerous difficulties as well as the continued trade embargo by the United States. Nevertheless, as you comrades and friends at home and abroad are well aware, many international organizations, as well as agencies in the United States, have expressed the view that the U.S. trade embargo against Vietnam should not continue. For our part, Vietnam will continue to expand cooperative relations with as many business and international organizations in the region and the world as possible. [end recording]

Answering questions on relations between Vietnam and China and other neighboring countries, Chairman Vo Van Kiet said that there had been progress in Sino-Vietnamese relations, especially with the recent meeting between the Vietnamese and Chinese deputy foreign ministers. Vietnam contends that the normalization of Sino- Vietnamese relations is the aspiration of the two peoples and that the Vietnamese Government will do its best to strengthen the long- lasting friendship between the two nations. He stressed that although official normalization of relations at government level had not been achieved, during the past period, in fact, the peoples of the two countries had resumed normal relations and traded, especially in the border areas.

In response to some issues raised by the newsmen about the immediate tasks that Vietnam will have to carry out in the framework of its economic policies, as well as the difficulties it is facing and the new advantages it is enjoying at present, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet disclosed that so far, Vietnam has met with very great difficulties in the process of shifting from an economy based on state subsidization to a market-oriented economy. One of those difficulties lies in a change in the trade ties between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. As far as agricultural production is concerned, last year's winter-spring crop failure has led to the loss of some 1.4 million tons of grain.

Apart from these difficulties, Vietnam enjoys many favorable conditions for carrying out its renovation undertaking. Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet said:

[Begin recording] As we carry on the work handed down by our predecessor, we have certain advantages, as follows: First, the party congress resolution has resolutely and clearly traced the path to renovation. This time, we do not have to learn through trial and error as we did with the sixth party congress resolution. This means that, though the road we now take is far from being a level one, it is well-defined. So, we just continue going along that path.

Second, Comrade Do Muoi, former chairman of the Council of Ministers, has now assumed the heavy responsibility of party general secretary. It can be said that in addition to the very valuable lessons he had learned from former party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, Comrade Do Muoi has gained very rich knowledge of the ways to handle state affairs. Because the top leader has an adequate understanding of the difficulties facing the state, he will probably be better able to cooperate. [end recording]

Dear friends, some of the issues of interest for foreign journalists attending the press conference are the living conditions of Vietnamese Government cadres and civil servants, the new policies toward wage adjustment, and foreign investment. A correspondent of the Japanese news agency KYODO posed a question, as follows:

[Begin recording] Please tell me about the wages of Vietnamese workers and civil servants. As far as I know, their wages are very low. Do you plan to increase their wages in the future? I still have one more question. Regarding investment in Vietnam, do you plan to adopt a regional priority investment policy? [end recording]

Comrade Vo Van Kiet answered:

[Begin recording] Regarding the wages of our workers and civil servants, we have not yet made a comparison to see if such a low wage system exists in other countries. A rational solution aimed at ensuring the living conditions of our cadres, workers, and civil servants will depend on many factors, including budget allotment—which is the direct factor—and other factors, such as the sources of revenues to offset the imbalance created by national spending.

To date, we still have many difficulties. We have already reported this matter to, and have received some advice from, the National Assembly. However, we are still unable to foresee any solution to this very muddled issue in the near future, particularly this year. The adjustment of the wage system is one of the objectives we are striving to reach.

Regarding the second question about a priority investment policy, we have never adopted a regional priority policy but have based ourselves on the priority order of the national economy. Some regions, however, will enjoy preferential investments, especially underprivileged localities such as our midlands and mountain areas, as well as our northern provinces. [end recording]

More on News Conference

OW1208123591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Mandarin 1200 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, held a news conference on 10 August in Hanoi. The news conference was attended by a number of Vietnamese and foreign journalists.

Speaking at the conference, Vo Van Kiet extended thanks to journalists at home and abroad for their attention to the ninth session of the Eighth Vietnamese National Assembly and their timely reports on this event. He affirmed that the subject discussed at this Vietnamese National Assembly session is the institutionalization of the reform line in the economic, social, and law fields as set by the Seventh Vietnamese National Congress. Because of this, he added, this National Assesembly session is of great significance to the process of reforming Vietnam's political system.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet answered numerous questions posed by journalists on the work plan of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers, on difficulties in Vietnam's economic and social development, [words indistinct] problems, and on changes in the personnel of the Council of Ministers.

He said: The Council of Ministers reported to the National Assembly session on economic and social development during the first half of this year as well as on the work direction and tasks for the second half of the year. After hearing the report, deputies to the National Assembly put forth various opinions to make the work plan perfect. In addition, the Council of Ministers also discussed the 1992 plan, is prepared to improve the work program up to 1995, and has set various strategic goals up to the year 2000.

Referring to international relations, Chairman Vo Van Kiet affirmed Vietnam's consistent line on foreign affairs. Among other things, he said, Vietnam hopes to expand friendly relations with countries in this region and all over the world, as well as with international organizations, on the basis of mutual respect for each other's interests. He pointed out that: In recent years, relations between Vietnam and China have further improved. To satisfy the wishes of the two peoples, the Vietnamese Government has made and is still making efforts to restore normal relations between the two countries. Recently, it has sent a vice foreign minister to Beijing to exchange views with the Chinese side.

Touching on the question of foreign investment in Vietnam, Chairman Vo Van Kiet pointed out that the Vietnamese Government is not in favor of giving preferential treatment to international investment on the basis of geographical conditions, but will decide on a priority investment system according to the economic needs of its people. At the same time, attention will be given to those areas and spheres where relatively big difficulties are being experienced.

Interview With Vo Van Kiet

BK1008091791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Interview with Vo Van Kiet, newly elected chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, by station correspondent Dao Nguyen—recorded]

[Text] [Dao Nguyen] Dear comrade, first of all, we congratulate you for being elected by the National Assembly to the position of chairman of the Council of Ministers. Would you like to tell us your thoughts on accepting this new responsibility?

[Vo Van Kiet] First, I thank both all of you and the National Assembly deputies for entrusting me with the heavy responsibility of being chairman of the Council of Ministers, relieving Comrade Do Muoi, who had assumed this particularly great task of the party. It is a very heavy responsibility to take over Comrade Do

Muoi's task of operating the Council of Ministers, even though it is a task that I and Comrade Do Muoi's assistants have been performing for a few years now. Therefore, I and the members of the Council of Ministers will firmly keep what is good of Comrade Do Muoi's work and we will strive to overcome all the shortcomings and discrepancies with good results in order to maintain socioeconomic stability in the second half of the year.

[Dao Nguyen] In addition, do you have anything to tell the mass media, including the Voice of Vietnam and Vietnam Television?

[Vo Van Kiet] Allthough the current situation holds some new, positive factors, it is rife with difficulties. I am convinced that the party, the state, and all the people will strive to overcome them; and I expect our mass media to give a prompt reflection of all our people's achievements in overcoming the difficulties. Also, we have to promptly criticize all the errors and mistakes in state management and any actions in society at variance with the law through our press, radio, and television.

[Dao Nguyen] Thank you, comrade. We wish you good health and happiness.

National Assembly Session Proceedings Continue

Fight Against Corruption Detailed

BK1008102991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Excerpts of report at ninth session of Eighth National Assembly by Pham Hung, Chief Justice of Supreme People's Court]

[Summary] "In order to successfully implement the National Assembly's resolution and the directive of the chairman of the Council of Ministers on the work of protecting social security and safety, the courts at all levels have been coordinating with the interior sectors, people's security forces, and the people's organ of control to quickly charge and appropriately punish the notorious criminals, hooligans, murderers, and people involved in activities effecting national security and social safety. These activities include damaging important national security property; illegally storing, using, and trading in weapons and military arms; preventing government officials executing their duty; and disturbing public order."

After implementing the resolution and directive for more than two years, the work of maintaining social security and safety has achieved some positive results.

"In the area of the maintenance of political security, with a high sense of alertness and with the people's support, the security forces have quickly discovered and prevented conspiracies and hostile activities of the international and domestic reactionary groups aimed at sabotaging our national revolution."

In the area of the maintenance of social safety, many criminal gangs have been cracked down on, leading to an end of the spread of illegal activities.

"The struggle against corruption, smuggling, and illegal activities in economic and finance areas has been intensified by the party and state. Although the cases brought to trial have not been up to the public's expectation, they have also been initially successful."

The proper punishment for some serious cases of corruption and smuggling has had the effect of cutting down on these activities. However, the recovery of property in the corruption cases has been at a low level compared with the amount of property lost.

Although every kind of measure to prevent, discover, and deal with many cases has been positively implemented, corruption and smuggling are still going on at a serious level.

On the other hand, the actual number of corruption and smuggling cases processed is still too few compared with the cases discovered. The public are very much concerned about corruption in the banking service and the national food reservation sector, where hundreds of cases have been discovered.

Concerning smuggling, despite the discovery of dozens of thousands of cases in the first six months of 1991, the courts at all levels have tried only about one percent of the cases.

"In the last months of 1991, we will determinedly lead the entire people's court sector to push forward the fight against corruption and smuggling, as well as any other illegal activities, to contribute to the firm maintenance of national security and social safety. At the same time, we will seek the opinions of the public, government offices, and social organizations about the law on the people's court structure in order to build a stronger court system, guaranteeing the fulfillment of duties entrusted by the people."

9 Aug Meeting Held

BK1008121891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] This morning, the Eighth National Assembly's Ninth Session held a plenary meeting in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall with its chairman, Le Quang Dao, presiding.

In the morning, the deputies listened to Vietnam State Bank Governor Cao Sy Kiem report on the bank's operations over the recent past; Finance Minister Hoang Quy report on the budgetary revenues and expenses in the first half of the year, and the projected budgetary situation in the second half of 1991; Comrade Tran Dinh Hoan, minister of labor, war invalids and social welfare, report on the living conditions of agricultural, industrial, administrative, and professional workers and pension recipients, and on some measures to alleviate the difficulties for workers in their everyday lives; and Comrade Phan Ngoc Tuong, minister and head of the Organization and Cadre Committee, report on the implementation of the Eighth National Assembly's eighth session resolution on streamlining 20 percent of the staff in state agencies.

In his statement, Vietnam State Bank Governor Cao Sy Kiem presented three issues on interest rates for savings and loans issued to peasants for production, and the prices of gold and dollar rates which suddenly soared recently, especially in June and July. He stressed that although the operations of the state bank network have changed for the better, there are still many stumbling blocks to be considered and removed. The bank still has not managed to complete its cost accounting. Answering a deputies' question about the recent reduction in interest rates on savings, the governor specified that this was approved by the Council of Ministers and it is a routine matter of the banking sector. Since 1990, the banking sector has adopted procedures on borrowing in order to issue loans. Although interest rates have been lowered, the state still has to spend several billion dong to pay interest on savings. Even though the low interest rates have been applied for a month, savings have continued to increase nationwide and have reached some 60 billion dong. Savings have increased in nearly all the provinces and have helped in coping with inflation.

As for interest rates on loans issued to peasants for the development of production, the deputies said they are too high and unfair because loans have been issued depending on territorial divisions. Concerning this issue, the governor explained that the interest rates have been experimentally applied to several localities in the Red and Mekong River Deltas and the rates have been found to be justified. Wherever production conditions are better, higher rates are applied. It is in fact difficult to grant loans to peasants because our production still depends greatly on natural conditions. The harvest might be lost and it would be difficult to recover the loans. However, with a view to developing the multisectorial economy, the bank has boldly issued loans to peasants.

The third issue is the recent sudden increases in gold prices and dollar exchange rates. The main causes are mostly attributable to the many changes in the domestic and world situation, and the fact that we have a trade imbalance. At present, we have to use dollars to import materials and fertilizers and to pay our foreign debts. Meanwhile, we have not found markets for many of our stockpiled products. As a result, we are short of dollars. Moreover, the bank has failed to closely control the source of dollars that are still floating. All sectors and localities continue to use dollars to trade and pay, and to bring dollars and gold across the border to smuggle goods into the country. Noteworthy was that recently speculators spread a rumor about the replacement of bank notes. These are the main causes of soaring gold prices and dollar exchange rates.

Reporting on the streamlining of administrative staff in accordance with the Eighth National Assembly's Eighth Session resolution, Comrade Phan Ngoc Tuong said that we have recently done some streamlining but not enough concerning the staff in various agencies, especially in central ones. The staff organization is still cumbersome, personnel assignments are still overlapping one another, and the position titles of cadres have not been clearly determined and this has led to poor performance. In the days ahead, we will continue with streamlining staff on the basis of rearranging production while always ensuring effective operation.

Also in this morning meeting, the National Assembly elected a new chairman of the Council of Ministers. Before the actual election, Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, requested that he be relieved of the latter position and the National Assembly accepted his request. Comrade Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State, said he and the heads of the delegation of deputies unanimously nominated Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the Political Bureau and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, for election to the position of chairman of the Council of Ministers in Comrade Do Muoi's place.

On behalf of the presidium, National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao informed those present that some deputies had also recommended Comrade Phan Van Khai, member of the Political Bureau and head of the State Planning Commission, to be another candidate for election but Comrade Phan Van Khai asked that his nomination be withdrawn and the presidium approved the request. Then, the deputies began to vote.

In this afternoon's meeting in the conference hall, the deputies continued to discuss the socioeconomic situation in the first half of the year and the urgent socioeconomic measures to be adopted in the second half. They listened to statements by the following comrades: Dao Tat Loc from Phu Yen Province, Nguyen Van Thuan from Thuan Hai Province, Mai Van Bay from Ho Chi Minh City, Do Dinh Giang from Hanoi, Nguyen Nghiem Minh from Ha Nam Ninh Province, Le Quoc Khanh from Vinh Phu Province, Duong Viet Trung from Hau Giang Province, Huynh Van Binh from Dong Nai Province, Le Thi Thanh Liem from Ben Tre Province, Le Thi Phuoc from Quang Nam-Danang Province, Nguyen Xuan Oanh from Ho Chi Minh City, Chu The Quynh from Hanoi, Lo Van Ninh from Lai Chau Province, and Dam Van Nghi from Bac Thai Province.

By the end of the afternoon meeting, Comrade Phan Minh Tanh, head of the vote control committee, read a minute on the election of the Council of Ministers chairman. Comrade Vo Van Kiet was elected with nearly 96 percent of the votes.

Communique No. 7 Issued

BK0908154591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Communique No. 7 of the Eighth National Assembly's ninth session]

[Text] On 9 August 1991, the National Assembly held a plenary session at the conference hall under the presidency of its chairman Le Quang Dao. In the morning, it listened to a report on some addenda to the Council of Ministers' report on the socioeconomic situation in the first half of 1991 and some pressing socioeconomic issues in the second half of the year.

Comrade Cao Sy Kiem, Vietnam state bank governor, reported on the savings and loans interest rates for peasants for the development of agricultural production, and on the current exchange rates to the dollar and gold prices.

Finance Minister Hoang Qui reported on the revenues and expenses of the first half of the year and the measures to implement the state budget during the second half.

Comrade Tran Dinh Hoan, minister of labor, war invalids and social welfare, reported on the urgent measures to stabilize the livelihood of workers, state employees and pensioners.

Comrade Phan Ngoc Tuong, minister and head of the Organization and Cadre Committee, reported on the implementation of the National Assembly resolution on streamlining state administrative staff.

Then, Comrade Do Muoi, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, requested the National Assembly to relieve him as chairman of the Council of Ministers so that he can assume the responsibility of general secretary of the party Central Committee. The National Assembly accepted his request.

On behalf of the National Assembly and the people countrywide, Comrade Vo Chi Cong, State Council Chairman, highly appraised the valuable contributions of Comrade Do Muoi over the past three years or more as Council of Ministers chairman.

Comrade Vo Chi Cong solemnly nominated comrade Vo Van Kiet, party Central Committee member and first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, for election to the position of the Council of Ministers chairman to replace Comrade Do Muoi. The National Assembly elected a vote control committee and then conducted a secret poll.

In the afternoon, the National Assembly continued to debate the pressing socioeconomic issues of the second half of 1991. Some 14 deputies expressed their views, focusing on issues such as procuring materials and technical factors, solving agricultural production problems, and concentrating on livestock raising and growing perennial plants.

They also expressed views on the planning of economic and major agricultural areas for grain production, and on the measures to bring in investment, increase efficiency, centralize leadership over industrial production, especially the handicraft and artisan industry; to expand the market to Zone 2, reduce intermediary links, accelerate exports, resolve the problems of mountainous regions and alleviate the difficult livelihood of the ethnic minority people, ensure a policy of privileged treatment for the surviving families of fallen heroes's and meritorious people; preserve and develop the national culture and press for more concern for the livelihood of artists and writers.

Before concluding the meeting, Comrade Phan Minh Tanh, head of the vote control committee, announced the outcome of elections for the Council of Ministers chairman. Comrade Vo Van Kiet was elected as chairman of the Council of Ministers.

On 10 August 1991, the National Assembly will continue its work in the conference hall.

New Cabinet Members Elected

BK1008063391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] This morning, 10 August, the National Assembly worked at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the direction of National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao.

The deputies heard Comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, read the list of comrades who had requested the National Assembly to relieve them from their positions in the Council of Ministers, so that they can perform other duties, as follows:

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap and Comrade Dong Sy Nguyen proposed that they be relieved of their posts of vice chairman of the Council of Ministers;

Comrade Nguyen Co Thach proposed that he be relieved of his posts of vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs;

Comrade Le Duc Anh proposed that he be relieved of his post of minister of national defense;

Comrade Mai Chi Tho proposed that he be relieved of his post of minister of interior;

Comrade Hoang Minh Thang proposed that he be relieved from his post of minister of trade.

The National Assembly agreed to the proposals of the above- mentioned comrades.

Next, Comrade Vo Van Kiet introduced a number of comrades to be elected to the various positions in the Council of Ministers as follows:

1. Comrade Phan Van Khai to be relieved from his post of head of the State Planning Commission so that he can assume the post of Council of Ministers vice chairman.

2. Comrade Doan Khue to assume the post of minister of national defense.

3. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo to assume the post of minister of interior.

4. Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam to assume the post of minister of foreign affairs.

5. Comrade Le Van Triet to assume the post of minister of trade.

6. Comrade Do Quoc Sam to assume the post of head of the State Planning Commission.

Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet also requested the National Assembly to give its opinion on splitting the tourist sector from the Ministry of Culture, Information, and Sports and Tourism so that it can be merged into the Ministry of Trade, thus forming two separate ministries, namely the Ministry of Commerce and Trade and the Ministry of Culture, Information, and Sports.

The National Assembly then elected additional members of the Council of Ministers. Comrade Phan Minh Tanh, head of the vote tabulation committee, read the results of the elections as follows:

1. Comrade Phan Van Khai was selected vice chairman of the Council of Ministers with 98 percent of the votes.

2. Comrade Doan Khue was selected minister of national defense with 97 percent of the votes.

3. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo was selected minister of interior with 97 percent of the votes.

4. Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam was selected minister of foreign affairs with 81 percent of the votes.

5. Comrade Le Van Triet was selected minister of commerce and tourism with 92 percent of the votes.

6. Comrade Do Quoc Sam was selected head of the State Planning Commission with 96 percent of the votes.

On behalf of the Council of Ministers, Chairman Vo Van Kiet pledged everyone's determination to work together with the entire party and people in continuing to advance along the renovation line with even greater achievements.

On behalf of the National Assembly, Chairman Le Quang Dao thanked Comrades Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Co Thach, Dong Sy Nguyen, Mai Chi Tho, and Hoang Minh Thang and wished them good health. He also expressed hope that the new members of the Council of Ministers will fulfill their heavy duties.

Also at this morning's working session, the National Assembly heard Comrade Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications, transportation, and post, report on the current conditions of roads and bridges as well as on the collection of toll fees in accordance with a directive by the chairman of the Council of Ministers.

New Foreign Minister Hightlighted

BK1008084691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0837 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi, Aug 10 (AFP)—Nguyen Manh Cam, who is replacing Nguyen Co Thach as Vietnam's foreign minister in Saturday's reshuffle, is a career diplomat.

Cam, born in 1929 in the central province of Nghe Tinh, joined the Communist Party at the age of 17, and has been with the Foreign Ministry in one capacity or another for most of his career, most recently as Hanoi's ambassador to Moscow.

From 1962 to 1966 he was first secretary of North Vietnam's Embassy in Moscow, and in 1973 became Hanoi's ambassador to Budapest, Vienna and Tehran until 1977, when the reunified Vietnam made him envoy to West Germany, Switzerland and Iran.

In 1981 he became deputy foreign trade minister before returning to the Foreign Ministry in 1987 as the ambassador to Moscow.

Cam, with a reputation for integrity, studied in the Soviet Union and is a fluent speaker of Russian, English and French.

His replacement in Moscow was not yet known, but speculation here centered on Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, an expert in Soviet affairs who was elected a member of the party Central Committee in June.

More on 10 Aug Session

BK1008130991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Station correspondent Kim Cuc's report on 10 August National Assembly proceedings in Hanoi—portions recorded]

[Text] This morning, the National Assembly met in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall under the presidency of its chairman Le Quang Dao. The deputies listened to Comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, read the namelist of those comrades who had requested to be relieved of their positions in the Council of Ministers so that they can perform other duties. They are Comrades Vo Nguyen Giap and Dong Sy Nguyen, requesting to be relieved from their posts of vice chairmen of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Nguyen Co Thach, requesting to be relieved of his posts of vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Le Duc Anh, requesting to be relieved of his post of national defense minister; Comrade Mai Chi Tho, requesting to be relieved of his post of minister of interior; and Comrade Hoang Minh Thang, requesting to be relieved of his post of minister of trade.

The National Assembly agreed to the requests of those comrades just mentioned by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Vo Van Kiet.

Next, Comrade Vo Van Kiet introduced a number of comrades to be elected to various positions in the Council of Ministers, as follows:
1. Comrade Phan Van Khai to be relieved from his post of head of the state planning commission so that he can assume the post of Council of Ministers' vice chairman.
2. Comrade Doan Khue to assume the post of national defense minister.
3. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo to assume the post of interior minister.
4. Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam to assume the post of foreign affairs minister.
5. Comrade Le Van Triet to assume the post of trade minister.
6. Comrade Do Quoc Sam to assume the post of head of the state planning commission.

Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet also requested the National Assembly to give its opinion on splitting the tourism sector from the Ministry of Culture, Information, and Sports and Tourism so that it can be merged into the Trade Ministry, thus forming two separate ministries, namely the Ministry of Trade and Tourism and the Ministry of Culture, Information and Sports.

The National Assembly then elected additional members of the Council of Ministers. Then, Comrade Phan Minh Tanh, head of the vote tabulation committee, read the results of the election as follows:
1. Comrade Phan Van Khai was elected vice chairman of the Council of Ministers with 98 percent of the votes.
2. Comrade Doan Khue was elected national defense minister with 97 percent of the votes.
3. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo was elected interior minister with 97 percent of the votes.
4. Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam was elected foreign affairs minister with 81 percent of the votes.
5. Comrade Le Van Triet was elected trade minister with 92 percent of the votes.
6. Comrade Do Quoc Sam was elected head of the state planning commission with 96 percent of the votes.

On behalf of the Council of Ministers and himself, Chairman Vo Van Kiet made a statement.

[Begin Vo Van Kiet recording] Dear National Assembly Presidium and Deputies,

On behalf of the newly elected members of the Council of Ministers and for myself, I appreciate the trust which is given to us by the National Assembly and the deputies. Together with the honor and trust given to us, we realize that the National Assembly, on behalf of the entire people in the country, has given us a very heavy task.

We take up the task when the world situation is changing rapidly. In addition to the emergence of opportunities and new prospects, complicated developments are also taking place and these require us to have appropriate, active policies and measures.

Concerning the national situation, our people have been striving to make much important progress in political and social stabilization and to take the national economy a significant step along the renovation road.

However, those achievements and advances are only initial steps. More difficulties still lie ahead of us. The road ahead has new advantages, but is full of difficulties and challenges. But with our traditional will and determination, the party's experienced leadership ability, the renovation in the activities of the mechanism of government, the close cooperation with mass organizations, and with the valuable experience of our predecessors as well as our own experience, our Council of Ministers believe profoundly that the people will overcome any challenges and difficulties, seize the opportunities, and steadily move ahead in the renovation process.

To implement the Seventh National Party Congress resolutions, we believe that one of the major duties which the Council of Ministers should positively execute in the future is to build a legislative government, making our government a genuine government of the people. Initially, the administration system will be reformed step by step in order to build a strong management mechanism from central to grass root levels to fulfill the new mechanism's demands.

Concurrently, the legal system must be made progressively perfect. The country must be governed by laws. We must be consistent in building a law-abiding conscience, tradition, and activities; and these must be combined with the building of a fine, healthy, national tradition and the adoption of worthwhile modern culture.

We must guarantee the application of the law and the development of democracy in every field of social life. The freedom of every citizen must be guarantee in conformity with the law. We must guarantee equality between different ethnic minorities and social justice for everyone.

We must stimulate the development of the market-oriented economy with different forms of possession and circulation to liberate and unfold all the potential of every person and group, and of the entire society, under the government's management and in the socialist direction.

We must try our best to exploit national resources and win external resources to overcome the current difficulties, creating conditions for new development steps in the future.

The promulgation of a suitable legal system and policies will create a legal base for everyone to develop their skills and to try to make themselves and the country rich; and for the unregulated, unorganized, and undisciplined situation to be controlled.

On the basis of the dissemination of, and obedience to, the legal system, we are determinedly pushing forward the fight against bureaucracy and corruption, which are common at present and which have become a source of pain, and one of the biggest obstacles on our renovation road.

We must eliminate from the state mechanism those who are bureaucratic, irresponsible, corrupt, power-abusive, and violate people's rights. That is the determination of the party and state, the people's earnest aspiration, and the greatest issue before the National Assembly that our Council of Ministers must concern itself with.

In order to create favorable conditions to develop the socioeconomy, as always we will maintain the lines of independence, and sovereignty, simultaneously broadening relations with all countries and international organizations in order to raise the level of mutual benefit in our relations.

Vietnam's interest is linked to the regional interest; therefore, our special concern at present is broadening relations with neighboring and regional countries and striving for a new Asia of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation.

Dear National Assembly deputies, the national construction and defense undertaking belongs to the entire nation. This is an absolute truth. As a result, to fulfill the mission assigned by the people and the National Assembly, our Council of Ministers has struggled to truly represent the will and supreme interests of the nation, and to muster and use to the optimum the wisdom of all the people in national construction.

The material resources and power might be limited but knowledge and creativity is boundless. Our people do not lack intelligence and wisdom. Our country is not short of geniuses. Well aware of this, we always want to receive the views of the National Assembly, the mass and social organizations, and the contingent of numerous and loyal intellectuals, especially the young, brave, and creative elements. To sum up, we want to receive the intellectual contributions of the people of all strata, including overseas compatriots, in the cause of enriching the people and strengthening the country.

We must understand even more thoroughly Uncle Ho's idea of great national solidarity to mobilize the strength of the entire nation in order to build step by step a prosperous and strong Vietnam. This was his innermost desire and is the earnest aspiration of all our people; it is a a very great cause and one for which our council of ministers is resolved to do its utmost to help achieve. Thank you, comrades. [end recording]

After Council of Minister Chairman Vo Van Kiet's statement, National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao said: [Begin Dao recording] Dear deputies: Comrades Vo Nguyen Giap, Dong Sy Nguyen, Nguyen Co Thach, Le Duc Anh, Mai Chi Tho and Hoang Minh Thang have requested to be relieved of their present posts so that they can assume other duties. Their requests have been approved by the National Assembly. The comrades have served several terms of office and have assumed heavy responsibilities in the Council of Ministers in different positions. They have upheld their devotion to the service of the people. Together with the Council of Ministers as a whole, they have actively struggled to implement the renovation line of the party and have created very important initial changes in the socioeconomic situation of our country by and large, and in each specific area of their duty assignments.

The National Assembly and the people will remember their valuable contributions and wish them all good health so that they can continue to contribute to successfully and comprehensively renovating our country. Comrades Vo Van Kiet, Phan Van Khai, Doan Khue, Bui Thien Ngo, Nguyen Manh Cam, Do Quoc Sam and Le Van Triet have been trusted and elected by the National Assembly to assume the new positions. We congratulate you and we earnestly expect and firmly believe that you, together with all the Council of Ministers under the personal leadership of Chairman Vo Van Kiet, will struggle to outstandingly fulfill your tasks. We also eagerly hope that the Council of Ministers, under the direct leadership of Comrade Vo Van Kiet, will continue to cooperate closely and effectively with the National Assembly so that together we can implement the tasks assigned us by the party and the people in order to promote the comprehensive renovation process on our country and to implement the seventh party congress resolution that is to score new victories alongside our people. [applause] [end recording]

Dear comrades, during this morning, the National Assembly heard Comrade Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications, transportation and post, report on the current conditions of roads and bridges as well as the collection of toll fees in accordance with a directive of the Council of Ministers chairman.

Communique No. 8 Issued

BK1108030191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Communique No. 8 of the Eighth National Assembly's ninth session]

[Text] On the morning of 10 August, the National Assembly held its plenary session at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi under the chairmanship of its chairman Le Quang Dao. Comrade Vo Van Kiet, Council of Ministers chairman, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, read the list of comrades who had requested the National Assembly to relieve them from their positions, which include Vice Chairmen of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap, Dong Sy Nguyen, Nguyen

Co Thach, and Comrade Ministers Le Duc Anh, Mai Chi Tho, and Hoang Minh Thang. The National Assembly has accepted their request.

National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao commended Council of Ministers Vice Chairmen Vo Nguyen Giap, Dong Sy Nguyen, and Nguyen Co Thach and ministers Le Duc Anh, Mai Chi Tho, and Hoang Minh Thang for their great efforts in serving the people and their outstanding performances with the Council of Ministers to implement the party renovation line, thereby contributing to scoring initial yet very important achievements in the socioeconomic development program in general, and in their responsible areas, in particular. The SRV National Assembly and people noted with gratitude the valuable contributions of these comrades.

Afterward, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet read the list of comrades nominated for election to the positions of Council of Ministers vice chairmen and ministers of national defense, foreign affairs, and commerce, and head of the state planning commission. The National Assembly proposed a secret ballot to elect the nominated comrades to these important positions.

Comrade Phan Minh Tanh, head of the vote tabulation committee, read the results of the election as follows:

—Comrade Phan Van Khai was elected vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

—Comrade Doan Khue was elected minister of national defense.

—Comrade Bui Thien Ngo was elected minister of interior.

—Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam was elected minister of foreign affairs.

—Comrade Le Van Triet was elected minister of commerce.

—Comrade Do Quoc Sam was elected head of the State Planning Commission.

Comrade Vo Van Kiet, on behalf of the newly elected comrades, thanked the National Assembly deputies for their trust and presented an immediate program of actions aimed at satisfactorily implement the National Assembly resolutions.

The National Assembly heard Comrade Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications, transportation, post and telegraph report on issues related to communications and transportation and answered questions asked by National Assembly deputies.

The National Assembly deputies held group discussion in the afternoon of 10 August and will continue their discussions on the morning of 11 August.

12 Aug Session Reported

BK1208055891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] This morning in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi the National Assembly continued its session. Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, presided over the session.

The National Assembly voted and passed the following:
1. Resolution on the draft amendment to the 1980 Constitution and on organizing to obtain the public's opinion on this amendment.
2. The bill on the protection, care, and education of children.
3. The bill on universalization of primary education.

After that the deputies heard reports on the draft bill on forestry development and protection. In this afternoon's session the deputies will continue to discuss and vote on this bill.

Also in this morning's session the deputies heard a report on the boundary of Hau Giang Province and a report on the draft law on taxation regarding utilization of agricultural land and taxation of land use revenue. The National Assembly will continue to discuss and vote on these two issues in this afternoon's session.

This afternoon the National Assembly will hold its closing session.

Meetings With Deputies Recounted

BK1208092991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Station correspondent Kim Cuc's report on her informal meetings with National Assembly deputies—portions recorded]

[Summary] "Between Monday morning and today [31 July], the comrade National Assembly deputies worked in groups to discuss the amendment to the Constitution; the law on the protection, care, and education of children; the law on the popularization of primary education; the law on forest preservation and development; the law on the taxation of agricultural land use and revenue; and the law on the revision and amendment of a number of articles of the criminal code.

"Apart from covering these group discussions, I took advantage of the free moments during break hours to meet and chat with a number of National Assembly deputies. I met Vo Tong Xuan, a professor of agriculture and a National Assembly deputy from Hau Giang Province, when he was reading or studying a certain document. Through various sessions of the National Assembly in the past, Brother Xuan and I became good friends.

"During a comfortable and delightful conversation, Brother Xuan told me of his recent trip to the United

States to attend the conference of various nongovernmental organizations with the aim of winning the U.S. friends' support for the revolutionary cause of the Vietnamese people. He disclosed his thoughts and concern about the issue of science and technology, which have had an effect on our country's agricultural production." Brother Xuan revealed to me that in his various trips to the deep south and the Mekong River Delta, he found that many local peasant families were still facing numerous difficulties in their daily lives.

He also told me that while meeting with voters in the Mekong River delta in his capacity as a National Assembly deputy, he realized that the peasants expected that this session of the National Assembly will adopt the law on the taxation of agricultural land use and revenue.

"In the corridor of the conference hall, I met Comrade Le Trung Kien, National Assembly deputy from the rice-producing Province of Hai Hung in the Red River Delta. According to Brother Kien, voters in Hai Hung Province suggest that in this session, the National Assembly should concretize the party's resolutions and policies toward agricultural production. For instance, it should fix the selling prices of agricultural materials in such a way as to suit the conditions of peasants, and that the rates of bank interest for peasants should be calculated carefully to ensure that they comply with the cultivation conditions in each region.

"In his opinion, the interest rate of 3.9 percent is apparently not suitable for the northern delta region."

Brother Do Quoc Hung, National Assembly deputy from Vung Tau-Con Dao special zone, disclosed what has been done and the encouraging initial results in implementing the 1991 plan.

In his conversation with me, Comrade Do Quoc Hung said: "Before my departure for this session of the National Assembly, I met with local voters, especially those comrade directors of various corporations and enterprises that are currently engaged in business and production. They all seemed to be concerned most about the various tax laws of the state. Many of them suggested that committees be set up by the National Assembly or the Council of Ministers to reexamine the situation of tax payment."

They suggested that the 1980 Constitution be amended by the National Assembly at this session, saying that many articles of the 1980 Constitution are no longer compatible with our party's and state's current internal and external policies.

Brother Do Quoc Hung said: "We, the National Assembly delegation from Vung Tau-Con Dao special zone, also suggest that Article 4 be included in the Constitution to affirm the party's leading role and to stipulate that all party organizations and members scrupulously abide by the Constitution and state law."

Dear friends, through our meeting with various deputies, we feel that the issues set forth by the National Assembly at this session are very important. Voters in all localities are placing faith in their deputies with the hope that after this session, concrete guidance will be provided for the people to jointly help advance the country in accordance with the spirit and determination of the seventh party congress.

Press Communique of PRC Talks Issued

BK1008160391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Press Communique on the exchange of views between Vietnamese and Chinese deputy foreign ministers]

[Text] From 8 to 10 August 1991, Nguyen Dy Nien, SRV deputy foreign minister, and Xu Dunxin, deputy foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, exchanged views on a political solution to the Cambodia issue and the normalization of relations between Vietnam and China.

On 10 August, Qian Qichen, state councillor and minister of foreign affairs, received Deputy Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and other members of the Vietnamese delegation.

The two sides were happy at the previous positive developments of the SNC [Supreme National Council] in Jakarta, Phatthaya, and Beijing in the implementation of a comprehensive political solution on Cambodia.

The two sides welcomed Prince Sihanouk on his appointment as SNC president and noted the relevant decisions that were unanimously agreed upon by the SNC.

Both sides stressed the need for an early, comprehensive, just, and reasonable political solution to the Cambodian problem in the framework proposed by the five country members of the UN Security Council.

They expressed their respect for the decisions unanimously agreed upon by the SNC chaired by Prince Sihanouk. At the same time they hoped that the important role of the UN would be promoted.

The two sides hoped that the Cambodian factions, in the interests of national development, would overlook any past conflicts in order to implement national reconciliation and quickly agree on the remaining issues, enabling the coming meeting in Thailand to make more important progress. This would create conditions for holding the Paris International Conference on Cambodia again.

The two sides exchanged views on the normalization of relations between Vietnam and China and the rapid return of ties in the field of economics, trading, transportation, post, and so forth between the two countries.

The two sides agreed that SRV-China relations should be normalized on the five principles of peaceful coexistence in response to the aspirations of the people of the two countries and in the interests of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

The two sides were pleased with the results of the exchange of views on this occasion and agreed to continue exchanging views in the future.

Commentary Views Relations With PRC

BK1208110591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Since 1980, Vietnam and China have five times met and exchanged views at deputy foreign ministerial level. The sixth meeting between the two sides is of significance in bilateral relations.

At the meeting, the two sides concurred on matters relating to the relations between the two countries. What is important is both sides expressed hope for quick restoration of the relations. Moreover, for the first time in six meetings and exchanges of views, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen spent half of the afternoon on the last day to receive and hold talks with Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien.

Mr. Qian Qichen said that China wished to find early normalization of relations with Vietnam in the interests of the two peoples and for peace, stability, and cooperation in the region. The developments showed that the Sino-Vietnamese relations have taken a substantive and positive course. It is certain that from now on bilateral ties will be quickly improved, facilitating the relations in all aspects, especially in the economy. Though the economic relation between the two have not been officially normalized, it has actually been developed. Cross-border goods exchange since last year amounted to more than U.S. $100 million. It is expected to triple this year.

Cross-border trade between economic organizations valued at U.S. $35 million last year and at about U.S. $10 million in the first four months of this year. Worthy of note is that trade relations between the two countries in the past period have met mutual trust and mutual interests, meeting the aspirations of the two peoples for further development of these relations. Normalization of relations of the two countries at present has been the aspiration and hope of the peoples of the two countries.

Speaking at the session of the Vietnamese National Assembly on Sunday, the newly elected chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed the aspiration and determination of Vietnam to normalize its relations with China.

Do Muoi Receives U.S. Congressional Delegation

BK1008144091 Hanoi VNA in English 1424 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 10—General Secretary Do Muoi received here this afternoon the visiting delegation of U.S. conressmen led by Representative Thomas Richard Carper.

General Secretary Do Muoi welcomed the visit, saying that he hoped it would help promote mutual understanding between the two peoples and accelerete the process of normalization of Vietnam-U.S. relations.

In reply, the U.S. congressmen spoke highly of the humanitarian policy of the Vietnamese Government and its effective cooperation in the search for missing Americans. They also expressed the hope for early improvement of relations between the two countries. The delegation left here for home later in the day.

USSR-U.S. Summit Meeting in Moscow Reveiwed

BK1108150191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Essay by station correspondent Duong Quang Minh]

[Text] The ninth USSR-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow has concluded. At the meeting, the USSR and the United States discussed many issues concerning their bilateral relations, as well as international issues of mutual concern.

Two results emerged from the meeting:

1. USSR President Gorbachev and U.S. President Bush signed the USSR-U.S. agreement on the reduction of strategic offensive weapons. The two sides agreed that within seven years the USSR and the U.S. will cut the number of intercontinental missiles on the ground and in submarines. They will reduce the number of heavy bombers as well as the number of nuclear missiles in those planes. After seven years, each side will have no more than 6,000 nuclear missiles, and 1,600 intercontinental missiles on the ground, in submarines, or in planes. The agreement also bans any development of strategic offensive weapons. The two sides also agreed that the agreement will be in force for 15 years and it may be extended for additional five year periods if there is no new agreement to replace it.

2. The USSR and the United States released a joint communique concerning the Middle East, in which the two sides confirmed that they would try their best to speed up and support a peaceful national reconciliation process between Arab countries. The communique also pointed out that the two countries, as cochairmen, will contribute their parts in convening an international peace meeting on the Middle East next October.

In a joint news conference on 31 July, President Gorbachev and President Bush stressed that to a considerable degree the summit meeting reviewed the two sides' recent cooperation and allowed them to increase their mutual understanding.

The world has been following the two sides' efforts both to improve the state of their relations and to decrease the amount of confrontation in international relations.

The USSR-U.S. agreement on the reduction of strategic weapons still has to wait for approval by their respective parliaments, but the signing of the treaty is considered to be a big step along the road to the disarmament of nuclear weapons. This document will further push back the danger of annihilation by nuclear weapons and increase mutual trust.

Together with the previous agreements, this agreement brings in the hope of peace and strengthens international security. There will not be any disasters such as happened in Hiroshima and Nagasake 46 years ago.

The public also supports the international meeting, instigated by the USSR and the United States, to seek peace in the Middle East in the coming October.

Of course, everyone is aware that the basic issue of the Middle East is to guarantee the rights of self-determination of the Palestinian people. Israeli expansionists who have illegally occupied the territory of Palestine and many territories of other Arab countries have to withdraw from those places. The Palestinian people must be able to return to their homeland to form their own government. This is a matter of principle. And when the Palestinian issue is considered as the main point in solving the Middle East situation, then the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people will be inviolable.

Palestine must be one of the official members of the international meeting on the Middle East, and there is no reason to push aside the voice of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the genuine representative of the Palestine people.

For some time the USSR has been asking for the elimination of any possibility of nuclear war and for the convening of an international peace meeting on the Middle East, with Resolution 242 of the UN Security Council as the legal base to solve the problems in that region.

The USSR-U.S. agreement and the joint communique focus on these issues more practically. Of course time will be the observer and assessor of the effectiveness of their commitments.

The public is happy with the agreements between the USSR and the United States at this summit meeting and wants these agreements to become reality.

Further Commentary on Summit

BK1208102191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 Aug 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The recent summit meeting between USSR President Gorbachev and U.S. President Bush in Moscow is a big international event which has attracted the attention of the world public. This is the ninth summit meeting between the USSR and U.S. in the last six years. This time it was held while the international and USSR situations are undergoing rapid and complicated changes.

At the meeting, the two sides spent a great deal of time discussing their bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern.

It is noteworthy that the USSR and the U.S., after nine years of negotiations, have signed an agreement to reduce by 30 percent on both sides their strategic offensive weapons.

According to the agreement, known as START, within seven years after the agreement comes into force, the two sides will progressively reduce their strategic offensive weapons so that by the end of the term of the agreement, each side will have no more than 6,000 nuclear warheads and 1,600 intercontinental missiles and cruise missiles based on the ground, on submarines, or on heavy bombers.

The two sides also signed another five documents related to economic, scientific, and technological relations: a memorandum for cooperation to prevent accidents and natural disasters and ways to reduce resulting damage; a protocol for technological and advisory cooperation in the economic field; a memorandum on safety cooperation for civil aviation; an agreement on the provision of emergency medical supplies; and a memorandum for cooperation in housing construction and economic development.

At the meeting, the U.S. President confirmed that a preferential trade policy will be applied to the USSR. While waiting for the U.S. Congress to approve that policy, Mr. Bush asked the USSR to speed up its economic renovation in a market-oriented direction, continue discussion on the independence of the three Baltic republics, solve remaining problems concerning the Kuril Islands with Japan, and review the USSR's relations with Cuba.

The two sides also discussed many international issues and released a joint communique on their consensus to call an international peace conference this October and their agreement on peaceful negotiation and constructive dialogue in Yugoslavia. They also called on all the Yugoslav sides to observe a cease-fire and avoid using force.

This USSR-U.S. summit meeting has an important meaning. The most prominent result is the signing of the START agreement. This is a big step along the road to nuclear disarmament. The agreement will further push back the danger of annihilation by nuclear war, improve the international atmosphere, increase mutual trust, and create conditions for the strengthening of common peace and stability.

After the 1987 INF agreement, the recently signed START agreement is another important step fulfilling the people's aspiration for disarmament in order to abolish the danger of a war of annihilation and to build a permanent peace.

The struggle for the implementation of complete and thorough disarmament is a long-lasting one. But the START agreement brings back the hope of further agreements in the future.

The USSR-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow has further strengthened cooperative bilateral relations although the two countries still have some disagreements. The improvement of relations between the two powers is beneficial for both, encouraging the tendency toward dialogue and cooperation in international relations.

The meeting is considered to be an important international event and its positive results—especially the signing of the START agreement—have been welcomed by the public.

Council of Ministers Issues Ordinance on Research

BK1208080591 Hanoi VNA in English 0628 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 13—The Council of Ministers on August 5 issued an ordinace and attached regulation concerning scientific researches conducted by foreign sides and foreign means in the territorial waters of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The regulation is in three chapters and 16 articles. Chapter one deals with the generalities, chapter two with concrete regulations and chapter three with provisions of implementation.

The regulation will facilitate international cooperation in maritime researches in line with international laws and practices and help achieve the unified management of sea researches and defend the national sovereignty in Vietnam's territorial waters.

The ordinance and regulation took effect on August 5, 1991.

Court Passes Death Sentence on 'Bad Element'

BK1208103491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] The military court of the 3d Military Region recently held an open court trial to try Nguyen Duc San and Nguyen Van Tho on charges of destroying important national security projects.

The court handed down a death sentence for Nguyen Duc San, and an 18-year imprisonment and a fine of 348,500 Vietnamese dong for Nguyen Van Tho.

The court trial shows that combatants of the Signal Corps have always heightened vigilance, endured hardship, and braved danger to promptly deal with bad elements who carried out illegal activities, thereby contributing to ensuring smooth and safe communications in the Army, and that those who engaged in illegal activities will be seriously dealt with in accordance with the law.

Foreign Minister Addresses Junior Diplomatic Club

BK0908155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 9—A panel discussion on the 'futuristic trends of Vietnamese foreign policy' was held here on June 8 by the Hanoi Junior Diplomatic Club.

The speakers were Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, Australian Ambassador Graham Richard Alliband, and Japanese Ambassador Hiroyuki Yushita.

Nearly 80 young diplomats and representatives of international organisations in Hanoi took part in the discussion.

Cultural Delegation Visits Japanese Festival

BK1108151691 Hanoi VNA in English 1419 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 11—A Vietnamese cultural delegation led by Vu Khac Liem, vice-minister of culture, information sports and tourism, has visited Japan at the invitation of the Japan- Vietnam Cultural Exchange Association and the managerial board of the Hakusmu Summer Festival.

At the festival, eight artists of the Bong Sen Ensemble from Ho Chi Minh City gave an interesting performance of Vietnamese folk songs and instruments.

During its stay in Japan, the delegation also had working sessions with Japanese Cultural Exchange Association on a cooperative programme between the two sides and the setting up of a Japanese-Vietnamese Club in Hanoi. The two sides agreed to hold scientific film shows of the Japanese company NHK in Hanoi Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang in May 1992. A Japanese cultural delegation is expected to visit Vietnam in September 1991.

The Vietnamese delegation attended a seminar titled "Japan- Vietnam: A New Period." It also met with numerous Japanese politicans, economists and social activists and representatives of some major companies, and talked with them about prospects of the cooperation in the fields of culture and tourism between the two countries.

Envoy, Indian Official Exchange Views

BK0908151991 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 9—Vietnamese ambassdor to India Vu Xuan Ang on August 7 met and exchanged views with Indian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Mehrotra in furtherance of agreement between the two foreign ministries to further strengthen the Indo- Vietnamese cooperation.

Taking part were Tran Trong Toan, acting head of the Department for South Asia of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, and Himachal Som, head of the Oriental Department of the Indian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The two sides discussed measures to enhance the traditional friendship between the two countries and exchanged views on international questions of mutual concern.

They expressed satisfaction at the development of the traditional friendship and all-sided cooperation between the two countries which finds a most vivid expression in the Vietnam visit by Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman last April. They reiterated their determination to further strengthen the relations between Vietnam and India.

In their capacity as members of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PIIC), Vietnam and India welcomed the recent developments in the search for a political solution to the Cambodian question and reiterated their adherence to the principle that questions related to Cambodia's sovereigny must the decided by the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia.

The two sides also exchanged views on the coming meeting of the foreign ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries and the 46th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The two sides agreed to continue the exchange of views between leaders of the two foreign ministries in the coming period.

Countrywide Rice Planting Reviewed

BK1208093591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, as of 25 July some 1,606,470 ha of 10th-month rice, nearly 60 percent of the planned norm or some 102 percent of last year's plan norm, have been planted. There will be rain next week in the northern provinces which is favorable to sowing and transplanting 10th-month rice. However, rainfall will not be the same everywhere. Drought still exists in the former fourth region provinces and has affected the momentum of planting. Some 1.122 million hectares have thus far been planted in the whole region or 66.37 percent of the planned norm, less than the same period last year.

In general, the 10th-month rice has grown and developed well and is being cared for and weeded actively by peasants.

Some 483,650 ha of 10th-month rice have been planted thus far in the southern provinces or 19.7 percent faster than the same period last year. At the same time, some 204,000 ha of summer-fall rice in the southern provinces have been harvested. The Mekong River Delta has not been affected by drought and the weather conditions are favorable for cultivation. Rice has developed well. However, planthoppers—even though density is not as heavy as in the 1990- 91 winter-spring season—continue to cause some damage to rice there.

In the Mekong River Delta, some 60,000 ha of rice have also been affected by blight and some 25,000 ha have been affected by leaf yellows.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry reminds those in the northern localities of the need to fulfill the 10th-month rice planting plan in the next 10 days, to secure enough reserve seedlings, to attentively control the situation of insects, and to watch the weather changes well so that measures can be taken to control possible flashflood and typhoon consequences.

The southern provinces should continue to harvest the summer-fall rice, transplant the 10th-month rice, and control insects for the newly planted summer-fall and 10th-month rice.

Rare Earth Deposits Found in Northwest

BK1108145091 Hanoi VNA in English 1421 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 11—More rare earth deposits have been found in the northwestern mountain provinces of Hoang Lien Son and Lai Chau.

Vietnam's rare earth reserve is estimated at 17 million tons, the second largest in the world after China.

So far only a small quantity of rare earth has been exploited, used mainly as catalyst in oil refinery, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, electronic and glassware industries.

According to the geology department, investment in capital and technology is badly needed for large-scale prospection, mining and processing.

Fiji

Government Appoints Chief to Cabinet in Reshuffle

BK1208074591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0734 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Suva, August 12 (AFP)—Fiji's Government moved Monday to bolster support in the country's marginal western region by appointing a former parliamentary critic to its cabinet in a reshuffle follow-up a recent ministerial sacking.

Ratu Serupepeli Naivalu, 64, a traditional Fijian chief from the western coast which is famed as an opposition stronghold, was sworn in as minister for forests.

The reshuffle followed the sacking of the minister for infrastructure and public utilities, Apisai Tora, for refusing to give up his presidency of the all national congress.

The dismissed minister's portfolio was given to Tomasi Vakatora, who was formerly the housing and urban development minister.

Sources among Fiji's chiefs said the appointment of the new minister for forests would strengthen support for the government in the western division, where traditional leaders have been demanding a greater role in running the country.

The only other western chief in the cabinet is Ratu Ovini Bokini, the minister for housing and urban development.

New Zealand

Antinuclear Stand Should Not Direct Policy

BK0808143291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1422 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] Wellington, Aug 8 (AFP)—New Zealand cannot allow its antinuclear beliefs to dominate its foreign policy any longer, Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said Thursday.

In a speech, he said there was a need for a more "realistic," more "sophisticated" approach to foreign policy.

A previous labour government passed antinuclear laws in 1986, effectively banning American warship visits here. As a consequence, New Zealand's membership in the ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand and U.S.) military pact was suspended.

Mr. McKinnon's government has pledged to honour the anti-nuclear laws while striving for a new pro-Washington relationship, with Mr. McKinnon saying that if New Zealand wanted to be part of the "new world order" it had to recognise the totality of its interests and strike a balance between them.

"That means accommodating things like the environment, trade access and security responsibilities in our overall approach," he said. "We cannot afford to let a single issue dominate a relationship to the exclusion of all else."

Mr. McKinnon said only those with an inferiority complex would think working with others meant subordinating themselves to the other's position.

He said those who thought New Zealand was leading the world in its antinuclear policies should recall no other country had emulated the ship-visit legislation.

Papua New Guinea

Foreign Minister Confident of UNGA Presidency

BK0908073091 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister says he is confident to be elected as the president of the United Nations General Assembly [UNGA] this year. Sir Michael Somare was speaking on his return to Port Moresby at the end of a three-week trip, which took him around the world lobbying for support for his election to the post.

Sir Michael said he was particularly pleased with support he received in meetings with some European foreign ministers. Mr. Somare said he also had undertakings of support from ASEAN nations and other Pacific nations.